

## AGENDA



Thursday, November 8, 2007

## Public Works

Item No. 45

## RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

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**Subject:** Authorize execution of proposed Change Order #3 to the construction contract with SMITH CONTRACTING CO., INC., Austin, TX, for the Austin Clean Water Program: Govalle 5 - Johnson Creek Wastewater Improvements Project in an estimated amount of \$163,423 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,036,113.30.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding in the amount of \$163,423 is included in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Mike Peatross, 479-1639, Stan Evans, P.E., 479-1636, Steve Schrader 703-6635, Laura Bohl, 974-7064.

**MBE/WBE:** This contract was awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9A of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) with 18.31% MBE and 5.40% WBE subcontractor participation to date.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Original Water and Wastewater Commission recommendation received December 20, 2006. Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

**Prior Council Action:** Original contract awarded January 11, 2007.

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This construction contract provides for the installation of new wastewater pipelines within Johnson Creek, underneath the Cesar Chavez/West 5th Street Ramps at Mopac. The improvements are intended to replace aging and deteriorated facilities and eliminate wastewater overflows that have occurred in these areas.

The proposed improvements in Change Order No. 3 include the installation of additional streambank stabilization and payment of a claim for additional compensation by the boring subcontractor for changed conditions during the bore.

During the bore under the large box culvert which supports the creek overpass near the West 5th Street/Lake Austin Boulevard interchange, subsurface conditions were discovered which were substantially different than those which could have been reasonably anticipated by the contractor. Large cobbles and various unnaturally occurring debris were encountered. No geotechnical information was available for this area, as no pre-design subsurface investigation was possible due to the presence of the concrete box culvert. As a result of this differing condition, the contractor had to resort to hand excavation for a significant portion of the line.

After award of the contract, significant rainfalls in the area resulted in a substantial amount of erosion to the Johnson Creek streambank. This erosion has threatened the stability of an existing manhole which is located on the bank just outside of the creek. In order to protect both the existing and new infrastructure, and in consultation with the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department, additional erosion control measures have been designed. These include the installation of limestone blocks and

rock rip-rap along the bank, as well as geotextile fabric. Change Order No. 3, estimated to be in the amount of \$163,423.00, will pay for these items.

The original contract amount was \$926,844.45, plus the administrative allowance of \$49,000. Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$46,525.61 covers costs associated with a realignment of the new installation due to a conflict with the location of the existing. Change Order No. 2 is a deductive change in the amount of \$100,679.76. This change eliminated all of the 42-inch boring and replaced that work with open trench installation. It was decided that due to the increased bank erosion, a bore pit on the bank was no longer feasible. TxDOT agreed to allow a tree within their right-of-way to be removed, which in turn allowed the change to the open trench method.

The Notice to Proceed for this project was issued April 27, 2007, with 90 working days allowed to substantial completion. The duration was extended by 25 days due to redesign delays. The project is now approximately 80% complete.