This is to provide you with further information concerning a ratification RCA to the construction contract with Viking Construction, Inc., for 2007 Miscellaneous Streets Slurry Seal and Micro-Surfacing contract which is on the March 20, 2008 City Council agenda.

In June 2007, the City entered into a construction contract for $1,610,068.35 with Viking Construction, Inc., to provide preventive maintenance. The work consisted of emulsified asphalt slurry seal application on selected cul-de-sacs, neighborhood streets, and micro-surfacing major streets within the City. The work was completed in November 2007.

Once the project was underway, it was realized that a section of Metric Blvd. was inadvertently left out of the original scope of the project. Similarly, the Bike and Pedestrian Program asked to slurry seal two additional streets - N Pleasant Valley Rd. from E. 12th St. to Webberville Rd. and Metric Blvd. from W. Rundberg Ln. to Research Blvd., for smooth bike lane surface and to reconfigure bike lane striping. Based on the need for the work on the additional streets and the requirement that all work be completed before the cold weather months, the contractor was directed to complete the work on those streets at the same time. Although not Departmental policy, the work was initiated before a change order could be executed.

The cost of additional work was $105,105.70, exceeding the approved contract amount. Funding in the amount of $105,105.70 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008 Approved Operating Budget of Public Works Department, from both the Street and Bridge Preventive Maintenance Program and the Bike and Pedestrian Program.
Although the work was completed in November 2007, Public Works has been working with the contractor in the interim to close out the project. The final payment verifications were not submitted until February 11, 2008.

Public Works is taking measures to prevent this type of oversight in the future; the Miscellaneous Streets Slurry Seal and Micro-Surfacing contract will be managed by the Project Management Division rather than the Street and Bridge Division. This procedure will allow Street and Bridge to remain focused on the technical aspects of the job, and the contract will be managed by more experienced project managers.

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning this matter or if you would like a more in-depth briefing.

Rudy Garza
Assistant City Manager

cc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
Jose (Joe) R. Ramos, Jr., P. E., Acting Director, Public Works
Bill Gardner, P.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works
David Magana, P.E., Street and Bridge Division Mgr, Public Works