



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-3076, **Agenda Item #:** 25.

10/21/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the relocation and adjustments of existing water and wastewater lines and appurtenances in conflict with the I-35 Capital Express South Roadway Project in the amount of \$2,772,461.74 plus a contingency of \$277,246.17 for a total amount not to exceed \$3,049,707.91.

Lead Department

Public Works Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget of Austin Water.

For More Information:

Adewale Odufuye, 512-974-7119; Aldo Ranzani 512-972-1122; Zachary Ortiz, 512-974-7613.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

October 6, 2021- Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on an 8-0 vote with Commissioner Atallah and Commissioner Turrieta off the dais.

Additional Backup Information:

This project includes the relocation and adjustment of existing water and wastewater lines in conflict with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) highway improvements along Interstate 35 (IH35) from SH 71/Ben White to SH 45 South. The work consists of relocating and constructing approximately 26,981 Linear Feet (LF) of water lines (WL) and 2,990 LF of wastewater lines (WWL) and appurtenances. This project is federally funded, and, per the approved Standard Utility Agreement and in accordance with the regulations for federally funded projects, TxDOT is responsible for providing 100% of the engineering and construction costs and for reimbursing the city for inspection and administrative costs of the projects except betterments.

The project also provides an opportunity for Austin Water to upgrade its existing infrastructure to better serve the growing Austin Metropolitan area. The requested upgrades and additions are considered “betterments” and will be constructed by TxDOT as part of the project and funded by Austin Water. Of the entire 26,981 LF WL and 2,990 LF WWL, the betterment portion consists of construction of approximately 4,095 LF of WL, and approximately 2,725 LF of WWL and construction of new appurtenances including service lines, manholes, gate valves, wet connections, and air release valves within the project limits.

The estimated total contract amount associated with construction, relocation, and adjustment of existing infrastructure, including the betterments is \$ 22,468,943.71. The Advance Funding Agreement allows Austin Water to pay TxDOT an amount of \$ 2,772,461.74 for construction of betterments plus a 10% construction contingency in the amount of \$ 277,246.17 for a total contract amount of \$ 3,049,707.91. A 10% contingency in funding is requested to cover possible changes to the scope of betterments that may become necessary during construction due to unforeseen conditions.

The roadway in this Advance Funding Agreement was identified as a transportation improvement project by TxDOT. Austin Water's existing water and wastewater lines are required to be adjusted to accommodate the proposed roadway improvements, and this agreement will allow water and wastewater infrastructure in conflict to be adjusted. Executing this Advance Funding Agreement will bring together the efforts of TxDOT and Austin Water in the design and construction of the roadway improvements and utility adjustments to reduce impacts to the public and save cost.

The construction of the roadway improvement of IH35 from SH 71/Ben White to SH 45 South is scheduled to start within two months of the bid open date. The bid open date is currently scheduled for January 2022. The water and wastewater line relocations and construction are scheduled to be completed first as part of the roadway improvement construction. All dates are dependent upon TxDOT design and construction contracts.

This project is managed by Public Works.

This project is located within the Austin Full Purpose Jurisdiction of Councils 2,3, & 9.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment, Mobility.