



ACTION CALENDAR

April 29, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Public Works Commission
Submitted by: Ray Yep, Chair, Public Works Commission
Subject: Allston Way Permeable Paver Demonstration Project

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the lowest responsive bid for construction of the Allston Way Permeable Paver Demonstration Project.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Cost of project based on bid results (see staff report).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Public Works Commission (PWC) has, since 2009, promoted the use of permeable pavers as an alternative to traditional asphalt pavement. The reasons include increased durability and green infrastructure benefits. A demonstration project on Allston Way, between Milvia Street and MLK, Jr. Way, has been designed and construction bids received. The PWC received information from staff on the bid cost and analysis on options for moving forward, and recommends proceeding with the lowest responsive bid for the following reasons:

- The lowest responsive bid is nearly the same as the Engineer's construction cost estimate.
- Staff prepared a 50-year lifecycle cost analysis of permeable pavement compared to asphalt pavement, and found the equivalent annual cost of the 2 options to be within 15%.
- Staff reviewed permeable pavement cost in San Francisco and found the equivalent square foot cost to be slightly higher than the lowest responsive bid for Berkeley's project.
- This is a demonstration project; the City will learn from it for considering future pavement options. It is also a green infrastructure project and supports sustainability.
- The location of the demonstration project provides educational opportunities with Berkeley High School.

BACKGROUND

At its March 6, 2014 meeting, the Commission approved the following motion:

Having considered the costs/benefits over a 50-year time span, PWC continues to support a demonstration full width permeable paver project. Specifically, PWC recommends to Council to accept the lowest responsive bid and proceed with the construction of the project. However, in late March the Measure M and Paving subcommittee (Henry, Swift, and Yep) will meet with staff to review the staff recommendation and data, and the Commission empowers the subcommittee to either reaffirm or revise this recommendation. (M/S/C: Kelley/Henry: Yes: Henry, Kelley, Neal, Swift, Abramson; No: none; Abstain: Schueler; Absent: Yep)

The sub-committee met on March 26, 2014 and affirmed the vote of the full PWC.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The project is designed to reduce the volume of storm water entering City storm drains, improve the quality of urban runoff from the roadway conveyed to Strawberry Creek and the Bay, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by installing a product that has been shown to require significantly less maintenance than traditional asphalt concrete.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

This project is consistent with recent years of consideration and Commission support for installation of a permeable paver option in City streets.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

See staff companion report.

CONTACT PERSON

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