

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT
September 22, 2010, 1:35 PM
City Council Chambers

Members Present: Jason Wiener (chair), Ed Childers, Dick Haines, Lyn Hellegaard, Roy Houseman, Bob Jaffe, Renee Mitchell, Stacy Rye, Dave Strohmaier, Pam Walzer, Jon Wilkins

Members Absent: Marilyn Marler

Others Present: Steve King, Doug Harby, Phil Smith, Gregg Wood, Monte Sipe, Erin Schmiel, Evan Holmstrom, John Hendrickson, Zack Porter

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the minutes of [September 8, 2010](#) and [September 15, 2010](#) Approved as submitted
- B. Announcements –Ed Childers would like to remove item two regarding the sewer loan program from the Held and Ongoing Agenda Items.
- C. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items – None

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Award the bid for Project 10-016, Deano's driveway repair improvements adjacent to 5318 West Harrier to AAA Construction of Missoula, LLC. for the sum of \$28,560.00 and authorize return of bid bonds. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Monte Sipe) **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

Motion: The committee recommends the City Council award the bid for Project 10-016, Deano's Driveway Repair Improvements adjacent to 5318 West Harrier to AAA Construction of Missoula, LLC. for the sum of \$28,560.00 and authorize return of bid bonds.

Steve King, Director of Public Works, gave background information for the Deano's driveway repair Improvements project as it relates to the inter-local agreement between the City and the County to share the cost on street mitigations. He said the sewer money budgeted for this project will come out of the sewer R&D funds.

Doug Harby, Project Manager, said the driveway is cracked and this project will stabilize and rehabilitate the sewer trench and reconstruct the commercial driveway at 5318 West Harrier. He said the low bidder for this project was AAA Construction of Missoula, LLC. He is asking the Committee for approval to award the bid to AAA Construction for the sum of \$28,560.00.

Jon Wilkins asked what had caused the land to settle and is the original contractor responsible.

Steve King replied that the sewer trenches were put in decades ago, in the 1980's and 90's, and the responsibilities are shared by several entities. He said the City and County have implemented requirements, such as inspections and infrastructure improvements in the County, and identifying these locations to assure that new sidewalks and driveways are installed structurally over these areas.

Bob Jaffe asked if any more repairs are anticipated on this particular project and is this only section of pipe in question.

Doug Harby said they do not expect any other problem areas in this project and explained the methods they are using to remedy this problem.

Steve King said this is not the only location where settlement has occurred. He said these additional, vulnerable areas in the City have been mapped out and new improvements would not be made over these areas in the future.

Pam Walzer made the motion to recommend the City Council award the bid for Project 10-016, Deano's Driveway Repair Improvements, to AAA Construction of Missoula, LLC., for the sum of \$28,560.00 and authorize return of bid bonds.

Renee Mitchell asked if these are recurring problems and has the City found a permanent solution.

Steve King said we expect these areas to be a diminishing problem over time and there are some existing situations that may need to be repaired, but there will not be any new structures built in these areas.

The motion was passed unanimously.

III REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. A report and presentation from the 2010 Bike Ambassadors. ([memo](#))([final report](#))([presentation](#))—Regular Agenda Phil Smith) (Referred to committee: 09/20/2010) **(REMOVE FROM AGENDA)**

Steve King introduced and expressed appreciation to the Bike Ambassadors, Erin Schmiel and Evan Holmstrom. He said he could see the direct communications and the exemplary behavior demonstrated by our Bicycle Ambassadors. They have been an educational tool for the community.

Phil Smith, Bicycle/Pedestrian Manager, said this was the eighth year the City has had Bicycle Ambassadors and they fill a unique position for the City. He said he would like to take this opportunity to allow them to talk about their experiences and accomplishments.

Erin Schmiel and Evan Holmstrom gave a [Powerpoint presentation](#) using photographs they took during the summer. Starting with the first two weeks of their initiation and training in the Bike/Ped Program and narrating the photographs to touch on some of the main topics as Bicycle Ambassadors. Some of their accomplishments included working with young children at the Parks and Rec. Camp by involving them in a play written by Evan; they enforced the safety aspects of wearing helmets while bicycling, educating the public, handing out brochures and pamphlets, and attending events such as Missoula in Motion's Bikes on Busses program.

Dave Strohmaier asked if they had noticed any changes with the cyclists behavior on North Higgins after the construction was completed.

Evan Holmstrom said their survey was done before the North Higgins painting was completed but most of the construction was done. He said most people were in favor of the changes and said they would bike more often on the designated bike lanes and not on the sidewalks.

Jon Wilkins commended them for a job well done. He asked Phil Smith if the department was going to do any type of educational programs about using lights on bicycles, especially in the university area.

Phil Smith said he is working with Ginny Merriam, Public Information/Communications Officer, to coordinate these types of programs to cover as much as resources will allow. He said people riding at night without lights are an ongoing problem and he definitely plans to promote the use of bicycle lights.

Stacy Rye requested that future information surveys include a breakdown by gender to see if more can be done to educate women since they appear to be at more risk for injury. She feels this information would be a valuable tool.

2. Use of \$60,000 allocated by FY2011 Budget in Road District #1. ([memo](#))([Five Year Assessments Chart](#))—Regular Agenda (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 09/20/2010) **(HELD IN COMMITTEE)**

Ed Childers said the City Council passed the FY11 Budget which included \$60,000.00 for Road District One. He said City Administration was given up to three months to list specific ways these funds could be used. He felt discussions by the Committee for the use of these funds would be productive in helping to make decisions. He said some possibilities might include mitigating costs for property owners for sidewalks, curb and gutter installation and repairs when ordered by the City.

Dave Strohmaier said his intent is to find ways for this money to benefit a broader spectrum of the City rather than specific areas or property owners. He said one option would be to have the City pay for ADA (Americans with Disabilities ACT) ramps and assessments for sidewalks in excess of \$10,000.00.

Steve King said the Public Works Department appreciates all of the ideas and comments and said the Public Works staff discussed dollar amounts versus situational conditions. Steve handed out a chart showing the last five years of City assessments. He said it is difficult for staff to quantify situations such as ADA ramps, corner lots with long property lines, or lots with long sides bordering the sidewalks, etc., and maybe a sliding scale for certain situations would be more equitable. He said the staff appreciates their guidance in these decisions and hopes the committee will base their suggestions on financial dollars because there are dozens of variables that would be very hard to quantify on what would or would not be subsidized. He said what the staff would be developing would be an Administrative Rule for committee approval on the use of these funds.

Roy Houseman said he would like to allocate resources to benefit whole community areas (for example the Grant Creek exit where there is large public usage) versus individual neighborhoods.

Jason Wiener asked how much money is used for sidewalk maintenance. He asked when they would need to have a rule in place to mesh with the timetable for the sidewalk program.

Monte Sipe said within the next few months the department would be sending out letters for next year's project and it would be difficult to get any additional information out in the initial letters. Anything decided would have to go out in an additional letter.

Doug Harby said the City tries to do one or two large projects per year such as this year's university project. He said there are numerous situations in the City that require work now, such as Orange Street that needs significant work, and there are some serious problems downtown. He said these problems are widespread and would use \$60,000.00 quickly.

Jon Wilkins suggested not using the \$60,000.00 this year and add it to next year's fund; he said that more could be accomplished with \$120,000.00. He said his pet projects included maintenance on sidewalks between Bancroft and Higgins; he said older sidewalks need repairs and there are curbing issues. He said each ward has their own special needs.

Bob Jaffe suggested providing relief to property owners for sidewalk assessments throughout the city not just for large assessments.

Dick Haines said there are many areas that are maintenance headaches, and he hopes the Committee and Public Works can mesh their ideas for optimal solutions.

Steve King said the City's ongoing problem is there are many more needs and projects than \$60,000.00 can cover. He said he would like the staff to create a list of options and show how many properties would benefit from those projects; then those recommendations would be brought to the committee showing what is workable. This needs to be managed to allow time to notify property owners of their proposed assessments.

3. An [ordinance](#) amending Chapter 15.44 and renaming the chapter from "House Moving" to "Oversize Loads and House Moving" to include oversize loads and update fees and regulations and an [emergency ordinance](#) amending Chapter 15.44 and renaming the chapter from "House Moving" to "Oversize Loads and House Moving" and amending Chapter 5.70 "House Moving" to include oversize loads and update fees and regulations, enacted as an emergency ordinance in order to have terms and conditions clearly established prior to the commencement of the Kearsley Transportation project, which will move a large number of oversize loads through Missoula. ([Emergency Ordinance - Jaffe - Underline/Strikeout](#)) ([Explanatory Notes – Jaffe](#)) ([Memo](#)) ([PW](#)) (**HELD IN COMMITTEE**)

The committee did not discuss this item.

IV. HELD AND ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion on the sizes of grease interceptors for the restaurant industry ([Grease Interceptor PowerPoint](#)) ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Stacy Rye and Bob Jaffe) (Referred to committee: 04/21/08)
2. Consider restructuring the city's Sewer Loan Program along the lines of the recently approved change to the Sidewalk & Curb Loan Fund.—Regular Agenda ([Chapter 3.16 – Sidewalk & Curb Loan](#)) ([Chapter 3.18 Sewer Loan](#)) ([Ordinance 3344](#)) (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 06/26/06) (**REMOVE FROM AGENDA**)
3. Review infrastructure conditions at the locations of serious and fatal traffic accidents: 2007-2009 ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Jason Wiener) (Referred to committee: 01/25/10)
4. Resolution to restore vacated Inez Street at South 2nd Street to the public trust and public use, and vacate a public access easement that was a condition of the vacation ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Carla Krause) (Referred to committee: 04/26/2010)
5. T4 America partner support ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Stacy Rye) (Referred to committee:

II. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Diamond
Program Specialist
City Public Works Department