

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2014/15 DOWNTOWN STREET PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS
(5TH STREET – BURNETT AVENUE TO GRAND AVENUE)

BACKGROUND:

The annual Downtown Street Pavement Improvements program rehabilitates or reconstructs streets within the downtown area. **The 2014/15 program location is 5th Street from Burnett Avenue to Grand Avenue.** The project includes removal and replacement of the existing pavement, storm sewer improvements, water quality improvements, and sanitary sewer improvements, as well as a ribbon of colored sidewalk concrete to match the previously reconstructed areas of downtown.

City staff and the engineering consultant, Bolton & Menk, held a project information meeting with area businesses and the Main Street Cultural District (MSCD). The project will be staged to maintain access to all businesses during construction. The work will be coordinated with recently awarded water quality grants received from the State (IDALS and SRF Sponsored Projects) to incorporate low-impact storm water features on 5th Street and create a more sustainable landscape around City Hall.

Bids were originally received on May 6, 2015. On May 26 City Council formally rejected all bids due to their being greater than the available funding. Since that time, City staff and the engineering consultant have reviewed the plans and discussed options to reduce costs for the project. One of the options proposed to reduce costs is to bid the project with an asphalt pavement alternate. However, concrete pavement is still the preferred outcome with this project in order to maintain the common look, feel and function of the other reconstructed streets in the Downtown Business District.

Cost reductions were achieved through evaluation of existing underground utilities and identifying improvements that could be made through alternative construction practices which would reduce cost but still provide an effective and functioning utility system. The construction schedule was also modified to allow the project to begin this summer or fall, while making the project maintainable and passable for the winter of 2015. This would thus allow for completion in next spring prior to the July 4th parade and Midnight Madness road race. Finally, the decorative fencing to be placed around the street trees has been moved to a bid add alternate, meaning if favorable bids are received this component can be added as a part of this project. Otherwise this fencing could be added at a later date through a separate bid such as Right-of-Way Restoration in coordination with the vegetative restoration on this project.

In accordance with these changes, plans and specifications have been revised with a new estimated cost of \$1,137,486. Engineering and administration are estimated at \$227,500, bringing the total estimated project cost to \$1,364,986. The funding available for this project to cover anticipated costs is summarized on the following page.

	Available Revenue	Estimated Expenses
5th Street (Burnett to Grand) Pavement Improvements		\$ 1,137,486
General Obligation Bonds (FY14/15 CIP for Street)	\$ 900,000	
Sanitary Sewer Funds (13/14 Sanitary Sewer Rehab Program)	\$ 175,000	
Sanitary Sewer Funds (14/15 Sanitary Sewer Rehab Program)	\$ 64,500	
15/16 Storm Sewer Improvement Program	\$ 70,000	
Unused GO Bonds from 11/12 Asphalt Pavement Improvements project (Ironwood Court)	\$ 75,000	
Unused GO Bonds from 13/14 Downtown Pavement Improvements	\$ 111,671	
Engineering/Administration		\$ 227,500
	<hr/> \$ 1,396,171	<hr/> \$ 1,364,986

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the 2014/15 Downtown Street Pavement Improvements (5th Street –Burnett Avenue to Grand Avenue) by establishing July 22, 2015, as the date of letting and July 28, 2015, as the date for report of bids.
2. Direct staff to revise the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project represents City Council’s continuing commitment to reinvest in downtown infrastructure. By approving plans and specifications and setting the letting date, it will be possible to move forward with the reconstruction of 5th Street during the summer and fall of 2015. Delay of approval could delay the reconstruction until late in 2016 which may affect annual events in the downtown area.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.