

Transportation & Public Works Committee Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, February 6, 2020 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM SeaTac City Hall – Riverton Room

Members: Present: Absent: Commence: 5:34 PM
Adjourn: 6:20 PM
Peter Kwon, Chair X
Pam Fernald X
Takele Gobena X

Other Councilmembers in attendance: Joel Wachtel; Senayet Negusse

Staff Coordinator: Will Appleton, Public Works Director; Florendo Cabudol, City

Engineer;

Other Staff Present: Mark Johnsen, Sr. Asst. City Attorney; David Tomporowski, Transportation Planner; Kamal Mahmoud, Engineering Manager

Public Comment.

None

1. Approve Prior Meetings' Dec 12 Special T&PW Minutes were approved to move to full Council.

Minutes

2. Complete Streets
Ordinance

Discussion/Recommendation

This topic was raised before Committee on October 2018; it is now a draft ordinance before the Committee for recommendation to proceed for Council review and action.

Complete Streets is an approach in designing roadways to accommodate as many modes of transportation as possible, including non-motorized access (Active Transportation). This approach confirms direction for staff in designing roadway improvements and provides leverage when competing for grant funding. The approach is flexible and allows staff to determine what types of complete street elements are viable for a particular roadway or project location.

The City has a Resolution from 2012 that was not sufficient to meet requirements for competitive grants with a complete streets emphasis. There was misunderstanding among Council and staff in the past that "complete streets" was a prescriptive policy/approach that mandated dedicated facilities at every location, even where not warranted. Staff has a better understanding of the complete street approach and the draft Ordinance allows for flexibility to design what is viable in a

particular location (Context Sensitive Solutions). The Ordinance meets standards that the granting agencies will accept and will keep the City competitive for multiple grant opportunities.

The wording of the draft Ordinance allows for consideration of emerging technology or treatments when available.

A question was raised as to the urgency of the new ordinance. We are aware of grant possibilities that require an ordinance to compete for them. Another question was raised as to what kinds of strings are attached to the grant funds we are seeking to compete for. Chair Kwon answered that federal and state transportation grants typically have the least amount of strings attached. Housing grants may have the greatest amount. Committee member Fernald wanted clarification that the Ordinance would not be prescriptive with respect to improvements; staff confirmed that it would not be. Committee member Fernald also asked for an estimated amount of grant funding that was not applied for due to the absence of a complete streets ordinance. Staff responded that the City was not eligible for three cycles of applications for the Transportation Improvement Board Complete Streets program. The estimated amount of grant funding SeaTac would have been eligible for was \$750K-\$1 million over the three cycle duration.

Committee member Gobena expressed his support for moving this forward and asked questions concerning the grant funding opportunities this would make available.

The Committee approved (3-0) staff to refine and finalize the draft Ordinance, and present to full Council in March.

Amendment of Blueline Contract for Design Services for Spot Drainage Projects

Discussion/Recommendation

The City has a contract with Blueline Group for drafting services on our 2019 Spot Drainage Repair Project. Eight locations were selected for repair in 2019 to be completed in 2020/21 using Stormwater Utility Funds. At the time of the selection of the Engineering firm, we had inhouse engineering staff available to design the project. Since then, that employee has left and new staff is not yet up to speed to take over that work.

Staff is requesting a contract amendment to add full professional engineering design services to the drafting contract (an additional \$60,400 to the original \$40,000 contract) to complete the design work.

The amount is available and budgeted in the 403 Fund.

Blueline is qualified and up to speed on the project, so that no delays in the work are experienced.

A question was raised as to how PW selected this engineering firm. Staff explained that we utilize MRSC (Municipal Research Services Corporation) Shared Rosters. For every project, we select 3-5 qualified professional engineering design firms to submit their qualifications,

	followed by interviews and a selection process that considers their experience, qualifications and availability to do our work. After selection, staff negotiates scope of work and hourly fee.
	Each successive project, different firm names are chosen to solicit qualifications from, according to state statute or guidelines.
	Committee approved (3-0) moving the contract amendment forward to full council for approval on February 11.
4. Adjourn	Adjourn Meeting