



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of May 21, 2024

DATE: May 21, 2024

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

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Construction Contract Award

**Brownlee Boulevard – Staples Street to Morgan Avenue
(Bond 2020, Proposition A)**

CAPTION:

Resolution repurposing prior unused bond funds and authorizing a construction contract to Gerke Excavating, Inc. for the reconstruction of Brownlee Boulevard from Staples Street to Morgan Avenue, with new asphalt pavement, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, installation of ADA compliant curb ramps, signage, pavement markings, upgraded street illumination and traffic signals, and Utilities improvements in the amount of \$7,725,813.45, located in Council District 2 with FY 2024 funding available from the Street Bond 2014 & 2020, Storm Water, Water, Wastewater and Gas Capital Funds.

SUMMARY:

This motion awards a construction contract to Gerke Excavating, Inc. for the complete reconstruction of Brownlee Boulevard from Staples Street to Morgan Avenue. The existing roadway will be demolished and rebuilt with new asphalt pavement, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, ADA-compliant curb ramps, signage, pavement markings, traffic signals and streetlight improvements. In addition to surface improvements, the project includes stormwater, water, wastewater, and gas infrastructure improvements.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Brownlee Boulevard from Staples Street to Morgan Avenue is classified as a Collector (C-1) on the Urban Transportation Plan (UTP) and is 0.63 miles in length. The existing asphalt pavement has significantly deteriorated. The existing roadway was originally reconstructed in 1941, overlaid in 1983, and seal-coated in 1997, the pavement has surpassed its useful life and requires complete reconstruction. Most of the existing utilities in this area have exceeded their design life (several were installed prior to 1910).

Brownlee Boulevard from Staples Street to Morgan Avenue was designed for HMAC pavement only based on the resolution endorsing pavement design recommendations for the Bond 2020 Streets projects approved at the City Council Meeting of July 20, 2021

The project's scope includes reconstruction of the existing 4-lane roadway with new HMAC pavement, curbs and gutters, and sidewalk repairs. Additionally, the project includes the installation of ADA-compliant curb ramps, signage, pavement markings, upgraded and additional street illumination, bus stops, and traffic signal improvements. Alongside the street enhancements, Storm Water, Water, Wastewater, and Gas utilities will undergo improvements to align with current City standards.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

2021 - 2023	2023-2024	2024 - 2025
August - July	August - April	June - November
Design	Bid/Award	Construction

Project schedule reflects City Council award in May 2024 with anticipated completion by November 2025.

COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION PROCESS

The Contracts and Procurement Department issued a Request for Bids in August 2023 for the proposed Brownlee construction project. The solicitation included one base bid (HMAC only based on the City Council Policy 28 for Bond 2020 projects) and two additive alternates for traffic signal improvements.

This project was initially advertised for bids in August 2023. The bids were rejected due to the funding shortfall. The project was re-bided again in February 2024. On March 27, 2024, the City received eight bids for the project. A summary of the bids is provided below.

	Bidder	Base Bid (HMAC Pavement)	Additive Alternate #1 (Traffic Signal on Ayers Street)	Additive Alternate #2 (Traffic Signal on Staples Street)	Total
1	Gerke Excavating	\$7,419,077.30	\$279,584.10	\$27,152.05	\$7,725,813.45
2	Mako Contracting	\$7,815,428.70	\$245,013.49	\$29,012.48	\$8,089,454.67
3	MAX Underground Construction	\$7,826,040.49	\$253,322.35	\$29,624.18	\$8,108,987.02
4	Clark Pipeline Services, LLC	\$7,964,998.75	\$276,266.76	\$30,188.97	\$8,271,454.48
5	Jhabores Construction Company, INC	\$8,171,260.45	\$355,381.91	\$30,973.64	\$8,557,616.00
6	Reytec Construction	\$8,595,864.75	\$244,189.00	\$27,442.70	\$8,867,496.45
7	JE Construction Services, LLC	\$9,418,290.00	\$265,607.00	\$28,134.00	\$9,712,031.00
8	J Carroll Weaver	\$9,360,394.93	\$505,507.74	\$46,608.75	\$9,912,511.42
	<i>Engineer's Opinion of Probable Construction Cost</i>	\$7,741,490.67	\$181,449.10	\$20,536.52	\$7,943,476.29

Gerke Excavating, Inc. is the apparent Low Bidder. Gerke Excavating, Inc. is from Tomah, Wisconsin. Gerke Excavating, Inc was previously deemed non-responsive in October 2022 for the Bond 2020 Frontier Drive project as the Statement of Experience submitted did not meet the minimum requirements outlined in the RFB. Since then, Gerke Excavating, Inc. has been working on several projects in the Coastal Bend area with the City of Ingleside, City of Aransas Pass and Aransas County.

Given the little experience in major street reconstruction, City Staff conducted an administrative hearing with Gerke on October 11, 2023. During the meeting City staff explained the expectations for the project and followed up with a comprehensive review of the bid package and reference

checks. Based on the review and administrative hearing, City staff recommends that the City award the construction contract to the Low Bidder – Gerke Excavating, Inc.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council could choose not to award the contract to Gerke Excavating. This would delay the project and conflict with City Council’s goal to expedite street projects with Bond Funds.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The item proposes to award a construction contract to Gerke Excavating in the amount of \$7,725,813.45 for the reconstruction of Brownlee Boulevard from Staples Street to Morgan Avenue. Project funds are available in Street Bond 2014 & 2020 and FY2024 Storm Water, Wastewater, Water and Gas Capital Funds.

Funding Detail:

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) shows the project is currently scheduled to begin construction in FY 2024. The project is ready to be implemented.

Fund: Street – ST 2021 Bd20 A (Fund 3558)
Department: Street (Dept 33)
Project No.: 21050 - Brownlee (Staples to Morgan)
Account: Construction (550910)
Activity: 21050-3558-EXP
Amount: \$1,981,803.68

Fund: Street – ST 2015 GO BD 14 (Fund 3551)
Department: Street (Dept 33)
Project No.: 21050 - Brownlee (Staples to Morgan)
Account: Construction (550910)
Activity: 21050-3551-EXP
Amount: \$1,372,128.99

Fund: Storm Water- StrmWtr 2023CIP (Fund 4534)
Department: Storm Water (Dept 47)
Project No.: 21050 - Brownlee (Staples to Morgan)
Account: Construction (550910)
Activity: 21050-4534-EXP
Amount: \$1,734,765.94

Fund: Water- WTCP RR 032950 2023 (Fund 4487)
Department: Water (Dept 45)
Project No.: 21050 - Brownlee (Staples to Morgan)
Account: Construction (550910)
Activity: 21050-4487-EXP
Amount: \$1,149,280.63

Fund: Wastewater- WWWCP RR 032950 2023 (Fund 4260)

Department: Wastewater (Dept 46)
Project No.: 21050 - Brownlee (Staples to Morgan)
Account: Construction (550910)
Activity: 21050-4260-EXP
Amount: \$1,363,113.58

Fund: Gas – Gas Cap Resv (Fund 4562)
Department: Gas (Dept 11)
Project No.: 21050 - Brownlee (Staples to Morgan)
Account: Construction (550910)
Activity: 21050-4562-EXP
Amount: \$169,720.63

Overall Total \$7,725,813.45

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends awarding construction contract to Gerke Excavating for the reconstruction of Brownlee Boulevard from Staples Street to Morgan Avenue in the amount of \$7,725,813.45 with construction duration planned for 17 months from issuance of the Notice to Proceed with construction starting in June 2024 and completed by November 2025.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Location Map
Bid Tabs (Base Bid and Additive Alternates 1&2)
CIP Page
Power Point Presentation