



4800 Ashford Dunwoody Road
Dunwoody, Georgia 30338
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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Michael Smith, Public Works Director

Date: March 28, 2022

Subject: **Approval of a Contract Amendment with Lowe Engineers for a Part-Time Stormwater Capital Project Manager**

Action

Authorize the Mayor, City Manager, or designee to execute all documents necessary and proper to amend Lowe Engineer's contract to add \$300,000 over 3 years for part-time stormwater capital project manager support.

Summary

The 2022 budget includes \$300,000 of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to add a part-time project manager for the purpose of expediting stormwater projects. The city has 39 active stormwater projects and has identified an additional 4 miles of pipe within city right of way that will likely need to be rehabilitated in the next 5 to 10 years. The proposed project manager would focus on expediting these projects using stormwater utility fund reserves and possibly ARP funds. The cost of the new position is projected to be \$100,000 per year for 3 years. Actual costs may vary but will not exceed the \$300,000 total.

Details

The city spends about \$1 million annually replacing or lining failing stormwater pipes connected to the public right of way. Nearly all of the failing pipes are corrugated metal pipes that have rusted out due to their age. The pipes were designed to have a service life of 30 to 40 years and many of the pipes in Dunwoody were installed over 30 years ago. There are currently 39 active stormwater projects dealing with pipe failures or other known stormwater issues. The schedule for most of these projects are dependent on acquiring easements on private property which can be a lengthy process.

Additionally, staff has identified 4 miles of pipe within city right of way that has not yet failed but will likely require rehabilitation in the next 5 to 10 years based on age and condition rating. Fifteen of these pipes totaling 0.2 miles need to be addressed in the near future and another 0.6 miles of the right of way pipe is rated in poor condition. The remaining 3-plus miles of pipe is rated in fair condition but ranges from 25 years to over 50 years old. Because these pipes are within city right of way the only schedule limitations are staff time, funding and contractor availability. The stormwater utility fund has close to \$2 million of surplus funds above the minimum reserves and adding the stormwater capital project manager will allow the city to begin proactively addressing more of the aging pipes in the right of way before they fail.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the Mayor, City Manager, or designee to execute all documents necessary and proper to amend Lowe Engineer's contract to add \$300,000 over 3 years for part-time stormwater capital project manager support.



February 3, 2022

Mr. Michael Smith, PE
Assistant City Manager
City of Dunwoody
4800 Ashford Dunwoody Road
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Re: Dunwoody Public Works – Special Stormwater Support Amendment

Dear Michael:

Good day. In accordance with recent discussions concerning support to the City for stormwater project management, I offer this letter for your consideration. Per your request Lowe is proposing the part-time as-needed support of a stormwater project manager. It is my expectation that he will initially work full-time to get the program up and running and transition when appropriate to part-time. Also I understand that this effort has limited funding due to the grant status.

Using the unit rate table from our contract, copy attached, I am proposing billing Mr. Javier Sayago at the Project Engineer unit rate of \$113/hr in 2022 and \$116/hour in 2023.

Ms. Sayago will work under the direction of you and/or your designee. He will be available available to start February 21 and can support this need.

Accordingly, we are requesting a contract amendment and purchase order. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any changes. Thanks for this opportunity.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jon W. Drysdale, Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

Lowe Engineers, LLC
Jon W. Drysdale, Jr., PE