



**CITY OF LOS ALTOS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 27, 2015**

CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Item # 5

SUBJECT: Appropriate \$287,451 of Traffic Impact Fees to Project TS-01024; award the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 2 for Intersection Bicycle Loops, Project TS-01024 to Tennyson Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$328,728; and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract on behalf of the City

BACKGROUND

Intersection Bicycle Loops, Project TS-01024 is an approved FY 2012/13 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project with a total budget of \$115,000 to improve bicycle detection in bike lanes at eight signalized intersections throughout the City. On May 27, 2014, the Council approved the allocation of \$12,149 of Transportation Development Act (IDA) to this project per Resolution No. 2014-10, increasing the project budget to \$127,149. The existing bike lanes at these eight signalized intersections currently do not have any bike detection ability, which is required by Caltrans & California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The original project scope included the installation of pavement in-ground inductive loops in compliance with the MUTCD requirements.

On May 13, 2014, Council awarded the design of Intersection Bicycle Loops, Project TS-01024, to TJKM. The project scope was modified to include the installation of a new traffic control cabinet to update signal phasing and timing, an advanced traffic controller, and new bike and vehicle video detection to improve transportation movement.

The operations of in-ground inductive loops depend on the presence of metal for detection. Bicycle construction technology, however, has moved towards lighter bicycle frame composition that reduces the amount of metal. Because of this, detecting bicycles is increasingly difficult with traditional in-ground inductive loops. Increasing the frequency of the in-ground inductive loops can improve detection, but also inadvertently captures the presence of vehicles in other lanes, creating false detection calls. Additionally, checking the operation and performance of the inductive loops is difficult for staff to perform without the proper electrical tools. The pavement loops can be easily damaged by any construction work near the intersection where loops are present. Damaged loops cause the intersection to operate inefficiently.

The use of video detection greatly enhances the City's ability to detect both bicycle and vehicle traffic. The maintenance and replacement of the video camera would have little impact to traffic as that task is performed along the shoulder area. The improved detection capabilities will improve traffic operations at signalized intersections. Video detection also allows staff to adjust detection zones and trouble shoot problem areas quicker than traditional in-ground inductive loops. Lastly, as the City looks to improve traffic operations through the implementation of Intelligent Transportation Systems, the video detection will be prepared to fit into the system. Therefore, the design of this project has evolved to include the video camera system.

Video detection provides enhanced benefits while also increasing the construction costs. During the design phase, it was discovered that the existing budget is not sufficient to complete the installation

of the video detection equipment for all eight intersections. On February 24, 2015, this project was one of four CIP projects identified by Council to receive additional unallocated Traffic Impact Fee funds.

EXISTING POLICY

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Project TS-01024

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

May 13, 2014; May 27, 2014; and February 24, 2015

DISCUSSION

As part of the design, the bid was structured with a Base Bid, Add Alternate No. 1, and Add Alternate No. 2 to allow flexibility in awarding the contract. The ultimate goal is to complete bike improvements at all eight intersections as required by Caltrans and MUTCD. The Base Bid upgrades five of the eight intersections (San Antonio & Portola, San Antonio & Almond, San Antonio & W. Edith/Main, El Monte & Covington, and Fremont & Springer) with video detection technology. Add Alternates No. 1 and No. 2 were designed to upgrade the remaining three intersections with differing technologies. Add Alternate No. 1 would upgrade two additional intersections (El Monte Avenue & University Avenue and El Monte Avenue & Summerhill Avenue) with traditional pavement loops in the bike lanes. The remaining intersection (El Monte Avenue & Cuesta Road) would not have a bike loop installed because the bike lane merges with the traffic lane at the intersection. Bicyclists coming to this intersection would utilize the existing traffic loop detectors on the travel lane to trigger the lights. Add Alternate No. 2 includes video detection at the same three intersections.

On September 15, 2015, five (5) bids were opened for CIP Project TS-01024. It was discovered that one of the bidders, Tennyson Electric, Inc., made a mathematical error in adding all the bid items. After all bids were confirmed, Tennyson Electric, Inc. was determined to be the lowest bidder. Mike Brown Electric, the low bidder before the numbers were confirmed, protested the decision. Staff has responded to the protester, Mike Brown Electric, with an explanation that justified the decision. The protestor was given a specified time to respond to the decision and since no further response was received, it is considered resolved and that the protester is satisfied with the City's response.

The award of Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 2 is recommended as the best option. Therefore, the budget of Project TS-01024 needs to be increased by \$287,149 to \$414,600 to complete this project. The bid summary is provided as Attachment 1.

It is recommended the award of the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 2 be made to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, Tennyson Electric, Inc. Tennyson Electric, Inc. has no deficiencies against its General Contractor's license. There is one violation listed in the OSHA database under this contractor for the last 5 years. The violation was resolved to the satisfaction of OSHA and closed in 2012. Tennyson Electric, Inc. has been in business for 21 years. They have

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successfully completed similar projects in the Bay Area for the Cities of San Jose, Dublin, Livermore, and Walnut Creek.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Posting of the meeting agenda serves as notice to the general public.

FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACT

Based on the low bid, the estimated project costs are:

	Project Budget
Design (IJKM)	\$ 52,000
Contract Award Amount	\$ 328,728
Contingency (10%)	\$ 32,872
Printing/Advertising/Misc.	\$ 1,000
Total Estimated Expenses	\$ 414,600
Total Approved Budget	\$ 127,149

With the additional appropriation of \$287,451, there are sufficient funds in Project TS-01024 for award of this contract.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Categorically Exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 (c)

RECOMMENDATION

1. Appropriate \$287,451 of Traffic Impact Fees to Project TS-01024
2. Award the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 2 for Intersection Bicycle Loops, Project TS-01024 to Tennyson Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$328,728
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract on behalf of the City

ALTERNATIVES

1. Award Base Bid in the amount of \$213,728, which will require appropriating \$160,952 of TIF to Project TS-01024 to increase project budget to \$288,101. Under this Alternative, three intersections will not be upgraded to meet MUTCD standards.
2. Award Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$267,524, which will require appropriating \$220,127 of TIF to Project TS-01024 to increase project budget to \$347,276. Under this Alternative, two intersections will be upgraded to detective loops only and one intersection will receive no upgrade.
3. Reject all bids

Prepared by: Kathy Small, Assistant Civil Engineer
Reviewed by: Susanna Chan, Public Works Director
Approved by: Marcia Somers, City Manager

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ATTACHMENT:

1. Bid results dated September 15, 2015

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Bid Opening (Confirmed Results)
Tuesday at 2:00 pm, September 15, 2015
Intersection Bicycle Loops
Project TS-01024 (13-20)

Engineer's Estimate:

Base Bid:	\$142,450.00
Add Alternate #1:	\$46,926.00
Add Alternate #2:	\$126,830.00
Total Bids:	\$316,206.00

Contractor	Base Bid	Add #1	Add #2	TOTAL BIDS
Tennyson Electric	\$213,728	\$53,796	\$115,000	\$382,524
Mike Brown Electric	\$197,250	\$36,388	\$152,500	\$386,138
St. Francis Electric	\$188,500	\$54,500	\$162,500	\$405,500
Bear Electric	\$205,135	\$44,900	\$171,175	\$421,210
Columbia Electric	\$205,705	\$61,546	\$183,466	\$450,697