Memorandum 21-136

TO: City Council
THROUGH: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
FROM: Janette Keiser, PE, Director of Public Works
DATE: July 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Task Order for Construction of W. Fairview Avenue (Eric Lane) Path

I. Issue: The purpose of this Memorandum is to recommend award of a contract to widen the shoulder of the W. Fairview Avenue (Eric Lane) extension so it can be used as a pathway.

II. Background:

Ordinance 22-25 appropriated $850,000 to the Non-Motorized Transportation Opportunity Program and Resolution 22-053 authorized a Task Order for Bishop Engineering, LLC, to design the W. Fairview Avenue (Eric Lane Extension) Path as part of the Non-Motorized Transportation Opportunity Program. The opportunity exists because there is a residential subdivision currently being constructed that will connect Eric Lane with W. Fairview Ave. We fast-tracked the design of the path so we could leverage this opportunity. Bishop evaluated whether it would be better to build the path on the north or south side of the road. We determined it was best to put it on the south side of the road because this better matched the geography, road geometry and the fact that the existing Eric Lane has a concrete sidewalk on the south side of the road.

The design is for an extended gravel shoulder, which can be used as a path. It will be bare-bones—no curb, no gutters, no pavement, and no concrete. We can add these later, as funds become available. The important thing now is to get the earthwork done as cost-effectively as possible.

Arno Construction is the contractor building the roads and utility lines in this new subdivision. We consider the work to extend the new road shoulder to accommodate a path to constitute “construction completion” and thus, exempt from public bidding, per the Homer Procurement Manual, HCC 3.16.060(F). We asked Arno to provide a quote for the work. Arno’s quote is $60,868. We consider this to be fair and reasonable, under the circumstances. For example, if we waited until Arno was finished with the Foothill Subdivision work, it would probably cost $30-$40,000 more to bring in another contractor, who would need to install a second set of storm water measures, new construction staking, and other duplicative costs.
III. **Recommendations:** That the City Council authorize a contract to Arno Construction in the amount Not to Exceed $60,868 to construct the W. Fairview Avenue (Eric Lane) Path.