



CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Item # 3

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: January 23, 2018

Subject: Sanitary Sewer Root Foaming

Prepared by: Grant Gabler, Maintenance Supervisor

Reviewed by: Susanna Chan, Public Works Director

Approved by: Chris Jordan, City Manager

Attachment(s):

None

Initiated by:

Maintenance Division

Previous Council Consideration:

None

Fiscal Impact:

\$235,057 – Funds are available in Capital Improvement Project WW0100317 – Sanitary Sewer Root Foaming

Environmental Review:

Categorically Exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 (c)

Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:

None

Summary:

- The Sewer System Management Plan requires that root foaming be performed in the City's sewer collection system. This work has been historically contracted out as a capital improvement project
- Sewer Maintenance staff started a sewer root foaming pilot project last fiscal year and continue to perform the work in-house this fiscal year. Equipment rental and material purchasing are necessary to perform the work

Staff Recommendation:

Authorize the purchase of material and equipment rental from WECO Industries in an amount not to exceed \$195,000 for Sanitary Sewer Root Foaming



Subject: Sanitary Sewer Root Foaming

Purpose

Authorize the purchase of material and equipment rental from WECO Industries in an amount not to exceed \$195,000 for Sanitary Sewer Root Foaming

Background

As described in the City of Los Altos' Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP), the City treats one third of the City's sewer collection system for roots every year, completing the full system on a 3-year cycle. Root intrusion into sanitary sewer mains is one of the primary causes of sanitary sewer overflows.

The City had historically contracted out the root foaming project. In 2016 maintenance staff took on this task as a pilot project. Performing this task in-house allows better coordination between routine system cleaning and root foaming activities. To complete this work, rented root foaming equipment was installed onto the existing sewer jetting truck. In addition, root foaming material is purchased in accordance with guidelines set forth by the Palo Alto Treatment Plant.

Discussion/Analysis

In June of 2017 the City's Maintenance Staff continued to perform the sewer root foaming project for the current fiscal year. To complete the current project that consists of root foaming 203,778 linear feet of sewer mains, an extension to the rental agreement of the foaming equipment along with the purchase of the material that is applied to the sewer mains is required.

Equipment and material are sole sourced with the vendor WECO Industries as they are the exclusive provider of the root foaming product that is preferred by the Palo Alto Treatment Plant.

The \$195,000 being requested is for the completion of two years' worth of root foaming. In FY 16/17 the City spent \$67,000, however, did not complete the full years' worth of root foaming work as a pilot. The two-year total of costs to complete the work is approximately \$262,000 when completed in-house compared to close to \$500,000 when contracted out.

Options

- 1) Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement WECO in an amount not to exceed \$195,000 for equipment rental and purchase of material for Sanitary Sewer Root Foaming

Advantages: It will allow Maintenance staff to complete the project and treat the one third of the sewer collection system as per the requirements in the SSMP

Disadvantages: None



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2) Do not authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement WECO

Advantages: None. As, the sole provider of the preferred root foaming product, there will be no advantage to public bidding the project

Disadvantages: Maintenance staff will be unable to complete the project and treat the sewer collection system as per the requirements in the SSMP. The City will be at risk of future sanitary sewer overflows

Recommendation

The staff recommends Option 1.