

Work Session

Agenda Item #	4
Meeting Date	April 13, 2016
Prepared By	Nima Upadhyay, Special Project Coordinator
Approved By	Suzanne Ludlow City Manager

Discussion Item	Project Update and Additional Design Cost Authorization for the Flower Avenue Green Street Project
Background	<p><u>Project Brief</u></p> <p>Flower Avenue, between Carroll Avenue and Piney Branch Road is a one mile long, two lane, two way roadway with a posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour. High numbers of pedestrians, including school children, walk or wait for a bus along Flower Avenue. Montgomery County Ride-On operates three routes & there are 16 bus stops in the corridor, eight in each direction. The eastern side of the street lacks sidewalk and the sidewalk along western side is in need of renovation to meet ADA accessibility requirements. Pedestrians face difficulties crossing the street due to the limited crosswalks, traffic speed and sight line issues. A study done by SHA shows that 85 percent of vehicles on Flower Avenue are traveling 10 mph over the posted limit. Improvements proposed by the project include installation of new sidewalk along the east side of Flower Avenue, traffic calming measures to improve pedestrian safety and security including intersection bump-outs and enhanced crosswalks, added space for bus stop locations, improved and energy efficient street lighting, and stormwater management bio-retention facilities.</p> <p>Unlike most city streets, Flower Avenue has minimal stormwater infrastructure. Streets generally have catch basins or inlets into which rain water flows and is transported through underground pipes to local streams. On this section of Flower Avenue there are two inlets opposite each other near Domer Avenue. There are no other inlets for the full length of the Flower Avenue project area. Stormwater on Flower Avenue simply runs onto side streets or private property. Rainwater run-off is shunted into Sligo Creek and Long Branch Creek without slowing or filtering. In order to address the stormwater issues, the project proposes low-impact stormwater retention facilities. These stormwater retention facilities will provide environmental benefit by capturing and treating street run-off.</p> <p>The City has held numerous community meetings to review the project design plans as they have been developed.</p> <p><u>Project Status</u></p> <p>Development of the Flower Avenue Green Street project has been underway since July 28, 2012. The City contracted with Rummel, Klepper and Kahl (RKK) to perform the design phase and prepare construction documents. The scope of the project originally envisioned has been expanded significantly. The City is working with Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) to coordinate their water main replacement program with this project. WSSC has agreed to pay RKK to</p>

design and prepare construction documents for the water main replacement and the City plans to include that work in the bid documents so it can be constructed at the same time. WSSC will pay for the portion of the project that relates to the water main replacement. Washington Gas has also planned the replacement of the gas main on Flower Avenue. The gas main replacement will take place separately and is expected to get underway before the end of 2016. Upgrading of the streetlights on the west side of Flower Avenue was completed in June, 2015.

The design firm has identified additional funding needed to cover the cost of work to bring the project to final design. The additional costs highlighted in the chart below include the following:

- Preparation of the application required by M-NCPPC as part of the Mandatory Referral Review Process;
- Survey investigation and drawing updates as a result of an error in the original survey documents;
- Additional coordination with Washington Gas to review their gas main replacement plan;
- Additional lighting coordination with PEPCO for LED upgrades;
- Structural analysis, design and plan revisions for stormwater management facilities proposed from Washington Adventist university property;
- Additional project management hours for coordination with the City, SHA, Department of Permitting Services and Ride-On anticipated through completion of final design documents.

Project Funding

See chart 1 below for a summary of funding.

Estimated Project Cost:	
Original Design Contract:	\$275,755
Additional Design Costs approved by the council on July 28, 2014	\$176,794
Additional Design Costs Needed:	\$74,578
Estimated Construction Cost:	\$3,068,210
Total Estimated Costs:	\$3,595,336

Funds Committed To Date For The Project:	
State Highway Administration	\$696,000
Chesapeake Bay Trust	\$20,000
Montgomery County	\$200,000
Transportation Alternatives Grant	\$1,040,330
National Fish and Wildlife Federation:	\$168,750
Community Development Block Grant FY16:	\$77,600
Total	\$2,202,580

The source of the remaining needed funding of \$1,392,756 is anticipated to come from City and WSSC funding.

	We anticipate design work to be concluded by June of this year. The bidding process is expected to require six months. The actual start of construction is likely to be early summer of 2017.
Policy	<u>City Code Section 7.04.060</u> “The City Council shall, by ordinance duly enacted, approve all expenditures of \$5,000.00 or more for professional services and all expenditures of \$10,000.00 or more for any other single purchase of goods or services other than professional services, provided, however, that ordinances approving such expenditures may be enacted upon a single reading...if such expenditure is specifically authorized in the budget...”
Fiscal Impact	The original design contract for this project through Rummel, Klepper and Kahl was \$275,755. Supplementary funds of \$177,000 were approved by the Council on July 28, 2014. Additional costs needed to finalize the design are estimated to be \$74,578. Funds for this work are in the FY16 budget, but the work authorization for RKK needs to be extended.
Attachments	
Recommendation	Receive project update from staff and authorize additional funding to finalize the design.
Special Consideration	A more detailed presentation on the Flower Avenue project will be a part of the April 11 Budget Work Session on the Capital Budget.