

**Council Meeting: January 13, 2009****SUBJECT: Borregas Avenue at US-101 Water Line Emergency Repair
(F0812-42)****REPORT IN BRIEF**

This report is to inform Council that emergency repairs are underway in order to repair a leaking 12" water main and associated valves running under Highway 101 at the intersection of Borregas Avenue and Weddell Drive. A contract has been awarded to KJ Woods Construction in the amount of \$134,500 in order to effect the necessary repairs. These actions were taken in accordance with the emergency procurement provisions of the Sunnyvale Municipal Code. Repair of the water main was necessary due to the potential immediate risk to life, health or property, including but not limited to compromised ability for fire suppression. Staff recommends that Council accept this report for the emergency water main repairs.

BACKGROUND

In early December during the process to install the ramps for the Borregas pedestrian crossing, the contractor working on that project encountered ground water at the intersection of Borregas and Weddell on the north side of Highway 101. Detailed investigation by City staff and the pedestrian crossing contractor identified the leak as coming from a 12" diameter cast iron water main that runs under Highway 101. The leak was slow enough that it had not dislocated soil or created any obvious disruption that would necessitate closure of Highway 101 or the frontage roads. However, the original cast iron pipe was deteriorated beyond acceptable limits, may be prone to catastrophic failure and should be repaired. Repair clamps were installed to stop the leak. However, they failed to seal due to the deteriorated condition of the pipe.

Once the leak was discovered, the water main was immediately shut off and water was re-routed through smaller 8" diameter pipes to customers served by the main. The smaller diameter pipes result in lower water pressure at the fire hydrants in the affected areas. Additionally, the aging valves at the shut off location continue to leak, requiring the use of a gasoline-fueled generator and pump running 24/7 to remove the pooling water.

EXISTING POLICY

Sunnyvale Municipal Code §2.08.190. Emergency Procurements.

DISCUSSION

The leaking 12” water line is contained within a 24” diameter steel casing that runs the entire width of US-101. Repairs will be done using pipe lining technology, whereby the interior of the existing water line will be cleaned, then a slightly smaller diameter flexible fiberglass lining will be pushed through the entire length. The flex lining will then be cured-in-place. Once cured, the result will be a rigid fiberglass pipe that meets all sanitation codes for drinking water with enough structural integrity to act as a stand alone pipe. The benefit is that repairs to the water main can be accomplished without major excavation in the Highway right-of-way and without disruption of Highway traffic. The repair work can be performed under the Caltrans encroachment permit currently held for the construction of the pedestrian crossing.

After the discovery of the water main leak, staff contacted known pipeline repair companies to gauge their work and product availability around the holidays. On December 11, an Invitation for Bids produced one bidder who could not deliver the necessary pipe lining materials in less than one month and the bid was deemed non-responsive. In the meantime, several other firms were contacted and a revised Invitation for Bids was issued on December 19. Sealed bids were received and publicly opened on December 30, with three responsive bidders.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>
KJ Woods Construction, San Francisco, CA	\$134,500
Insituform Technologies, Chesterfield, MO	\$158,615
Preston Pipelines, Inc., Milpitas, CA	\$176,346

Staff determined KJ Woods Construction to be the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. Given the nature and location of the water leak and the potential hazard it poses, staff proceeded with awarding a contract to KJ Woods Construction under the Emergency Procurement provision of the Purchasing Ordinance. This provision allows City staff to make emergency procurements, regardless of cost, if there is an urgent necessity to do so for the preservation of life, health or property. These procurements are to be made with such competition as is practical under the circumstances and limited to those goods or services necessary to satisfy the emergency need. Following the purchase, a report must be made to the City Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds in the amount of \$134,500 are available in project 825451, City-Wide Water Line Replacement. Funding for the regular replacement of water lines is planned in Project 825451 in each year of the Water Fund Long-Term Financial

Plan. There is currently a project planned for this fiscal year's funding, but staff believes there are sufficient funds in the project to cover both the regular work and this emergency replacement. Should this not be the case, a Budget Modification may be necessary to complete the regular replacement.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's Web site.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council accept this report for the emergency water main repairs.

Reviewed by:

Mary J. Bradley, Director, Finance

Prepared by: Pete Gonda, Senior Management Analyst

Reviewed by:

Marvin Rose, Director, Public Works

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers
City Manager