



Agenda Item: 14.C
Date of Meeting: August 12, 2024
Department: Public Works

STAFF REPORT

To: City Council
From: Nora Gamino
Subject: **Task Order to Update City Standards and Details**
Prepared On: July 30, 2024
Attachments: Task Order 03_City Standards & Details Update

Background/History:

Construction standards and details are essential guidelines used by designers, engineers, contractors, and city staff to ensure that all construction projects meet safety and quality requirements. They provide clear instructions on how to build different parts of a project, such as roads, water systems, sanitary sewers, and landscaping.

The City of Bishop currently relies on a mix of outdated documents: the 1991 Specifications for Domestic Water and Sanitary Sewer Systems, the 1996 Landscaping Details, and the 2012 Domestic Water and Sanitary Sewer Detail. City Council has emphasized the need to improve infrastructure and overall growth and development. These documents, which are now decades old, do not reflect current best practices, technological advancements, or the evolving regulatory landscape. Additionally, it is critical to have baseline design standards to reference if there is ever a need to deviate from State Standards which would require exceeding local standards. Updating these standards is essential to ensure that future construction projects meet the City's goals for safety, sustainability, and efficiency.

Analysis/Discussion:

Updating construction standards is an investment that will have many benefits, as listed below:

1. **Enhanced Safety and Compliance:**
Updating construction standards will ensure compliance with current state and federal regulations, which are continually evolving. This aligns with the City's obligation to protect public safety and the welfare of residents.
2. **Improved Quality of Construction:**
By establishing clear and modernized standards and specifications, the City will promote higher quality construction practices. This can lead to longer-lasting infrastructure and potentially lower maintenance costs over time.
3. **Standardization of Processes:**
A comprehensive update will provide uniform guidelines for designers and contractors,

which streamlines the design and construction process and minimizes confusion. This can enhance efficiency in project execution and allow for more predictable outcomes in project timelines and budgets.

4. **Cost-Effectiveness in the Long Run:**

Although the initial investment may seem significant, the long-term benefits of updated standards will likely result in cost savings through reduced project delays, lower maintenance needs, and improved durability of construction.

The proposed contract is a strategic investment in the City of Bishop's future. By updating the City's construction standards and specifications, which currently include outdated documents from 1991, 1996, and 2012, we will ensure that the City continues to uphold high standards of safety, quality, and sustainability in all future developments. This forward-thinking approach will ultimately benefit our community and enhance the overall quality of life for residents.

Economic Impacts:

By updating construction specifications, local contractors would benefit from clearer guidelines, potentially increasing participation in City projects. This could foster a more competitive local market and contribute to the overall economic health of Bishop.

Budget Impacts:

This item is not currently included in the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget. An adjustment to the General Fund (Streets), Sewer Fund, and Water Fund for professional and technical services (line items 001-023-52015, 002-051-52015, and 004-051-52015, respectively) in the amount of \$21,759 each, is proposed to cover the \$65,275 cost of the contract.

Legal Review:

Not required.

Recommended Action:

Council consideration to approve the Public Works Director to sign a task order with Wood Rodgers to update the City's standards and details for a not-to-exceed fee of \$65,275 and approve a budget adjustment as proposed.

Approved By: Ethan Aukee 8/1/2024

Approved By: Robin Picken 8/1/2024

Approved By: Deston Dishion 8/2/2024

Approved By: