

AGENDA ITEM #: _____

DATE: September 23, 2019

CAR #: 2019-6785



CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

SUBJECT: Bullard Wash Emergency Remediation and Construction Work

STAFF PRESENTER(S): Rebecca Zook, Director of Engineering
Sumeet Mohan, Deputy Director of Engineering

OTHER PRESENTER(S): N/A

Summary: Authorization to move forward with emergency remediation efforts and construction work within the Bullard Wash Phase 1 Park and approve budget transfers of up to \$695,000. Work to be completed is intended to optimize the storm water and irrigation conveyance system within the Bullard Wash Phase 1 Park.

Recommendation:

Approve all budget transfers needed up to \$695,000 as shown in Funding Option 2 and all expenditures necessary to address emergency repairs to the storm water and irrigation system in Bullard Wash Phase 1 Park.

Fiscal Impact:

Two funding options using General Fund projects and contingencies are proposed to provide funding for a new capital project to address this unanticipated and urgent need.

Item In Order of Use Priority	Funding Option 1	Funding Option 2
Repurpose the Bullard Wash Tail water capital project	\$ 337,000	\$337,000
Repurpose the Parks One-time Supplemental for Bullard Wash Clean-up	108,000	108,000
City Manager Contingency-One-time Portion	250,000	125,000
Council Special Project Fund	0	125,000
Total Up To General Fund Amount	\$ 695,000	\$695,000

The Bullard Wash Tail Water project was intended to provide signage, minor drainage modifications, and a dry crossing in the wash. Both the City Manager Contingency and the Council Special Project Fund are used to address unanticipated needs throughout the year. Staff generally does not propose uses of the Council Special Project fund, however, at this point we are not quite 25% through the year and this is an unusually large expense for an important community impact that would exhaust all of the City Manager One-time General Fund Contingency. As a result, Option 2 is offered and recommended by staff. Further, the

City Manager Contingency can be used for any future high priority need and its use is always approved by Council and all spending by the City is encompassed in Council’s policy direction and priorities. Mayor Lord requests council consideration of the use of their special projects fund. Regardless of the option, only the amount required will be transferred in the priority shown.

The remaining balances in the contingency funds under the options would be as follows:

General Fund Contingency	Option 1 Remaining Balance	Option 2 Remaining Balance
City Manager Contingency		
One-time	\$ 0	\$ 125,000
Ongoing	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Council Special Project Fund	\$ 137,000	\$ 12,000

Finally, due to the emergency nature of this situation, full costs are not yet known until the dry up and assessments are complete. If additional funding is required, the budget transfer policy will be followed.

It should be noted, that currently the Council Special Project fund is an unbudgeted carryover and carryover of the full fund of \$137,000 would also be included in the approval of the budget transfers regardless of the funding option or mix chosen.

Background and Previous Actions

In 2004, Bullard Wash between Camelback and Indian School was improved. The improvements included channelization for storm water flows along with the installation of a 24” storm drain and irrigation pipe along the western edge of the wash. In addition, a concrete low flow channel was also installed along the eastern edge. The storm drain and irrigation pipe and the low flow channel were sized to accommodate both low and incidental flows. The improvements were successful in accommodating the low and incidental flows originating from rain events and irrigation tail water from farming operations north of the city.

Approximately 5 years ago, the city began to experience increased irrigation flows that caused impacts to the Bullard Wash Phase 1 Park area including Falcon Park. As a result, the city has completed a number of smaller construction projects in order to remediate the impacts to the park area. A couple examples include the installation of an 18”-24” curbing within the wash on the south side of Camelback Road intended to direct the flow into the 24” pipe and minimize by pass flows. The city also added ‘curbing’ along a portion of the original low flow channel to contain the flows within the concrete area.

As the tail water flows have continued to increase, the city secured a firm to study the origins of the flows and analyze various options for the city to undertake. The study was completed in 2018 and determined the flows were coming from numerous farmers and property owners to the north and the increases appeared to be due to changes in farming practices and operations. Based on the 2018 report, the city was moving forward with a Capital project to add signage regarding flows in the wash along with adding elevated pedestrian walkways over the nuisance and low flow areas. The project was to begin design in July, 2019.

Beginning May, 2019, the city has seen constant and increased irrigation flows. Due to the flows, the city has been unable to maintain the turfed area of the channel which has resulted in overgrowth causing pooled irrigation water in various areas in Phase 1. In addition to the flows in the wash area, the city observed water flowing in the opposite direction of flow in one of the 24” manholes. The city brought on a contractor to plug and video the line to determine what was occurring in the pipe. The results showed that the pipe had numerous deficiencies to include mud, debris, roots, grasses and a collapsed section due to damage from a dry utility boring operation.

Staff Analysis

The City has hired Hunter Contracting to install an above ground 24” by-pass pipe. The pipe will be used to divert the flows from the existing 24” pipe for a length of approximately 1500 – 2000 LF. The by-pass pipe will be used to reroute flows to allow the contractor to dry out, clean and repair the existing pipe. There are a number of repair options available from a simple repair to a complete remove and replace. Once the contractor can observe the pipe conditions without debris and flow, they will recommend a course of action. The city anticipates completing the remediation and construction work within the next 8 weeks.

Attachments

None