



Department Source: Public Works

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: July 6, 2021

Re: Authorizing a Bid Call for Construction and Installation of Fencing to Provide Enhanced Fall Protection and Related Self-Harm Deterrent Measures for the Fifth Street and Walnut Street Municipal Parking Structure.

Executive Summary

Staff is requesting council authorize a bid call through the Purchasing Division for construction and installation of fencing to provide enhanced fall protection and related self-harm deterrent measures for the Fifth Street and Walnut Street Municipal Parking Structure. A virtual IP meeting was held from August 17, 2020 to August 31, 2020, and the public hearing was held on October 5, 2020.

Discussion

The 2020 budget was adopted at the September 16, 2019 City Council meeting, included in the Parking Utility budget was a line item of \$300,000 to begin a process to investigate methods for implementing fall protection and self-harm measures for the Fifth Street and Walnut Street municipal parking structure. Since opening in 2011, individuals have used the Fifth Street and Walnut Street municipal parking structure to cause self-harm, due to these events, the Parking Utility wanted to explore options that may lower the chance that an individual would use the parking structure to attempt to cause self-harm in the future.

At the February 3, 2020 Council meeting, Council authorized an agreement with Walker Consultants to perform conceptual design consulting services relative to providing enhanced fall protection and self-harm deterrent measures that would exceed the requirements of the building code at the time of the original design of the structure. Staff set up a virtual IP meeting from August 17, 2020 to August 31, 2020 and issued a press release asking for public comment on the proposal Walker Consultants provided that showed fencing on the top level and wire panels over the open spaces on the lower floors. Staff has worked with our Health Department for signage recommendations.

Council directed staff to proceed with final plans and specifications after the public hearing was held on October 5, 2020. Staff would like to proceed with a phased approach to the construction. COVID has impacted and escalated the cost of materials, especially steel components, for this reason, staff requests to proceed with the top fencing installation only with this bid call. After installation, staff will monitor the market and determine an appropriate time for the installation of the fencing panels as discussed at the Public Hearing. If Council approves this approach, construction of the fencing could begin later this summer or in the fall. Investment for this project will be paid from the Parking Utility Enterprise Fund.



Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The initial budget is \$300,000 from parking retained earnings, depending the final scope of work and receiving construction bids, there may be a need to appropriate more money.

Long-Term Impact: Minor maintenance of the fencing and panels.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
10/05/2020	PH34-20 Public hearing to consider options to provide enhanced fall protection and related self-harm deterrent measures for the Fifth Street and Walnut Street municipal parking structure.
09/21/2020	R110-20 Setting a public hearing: consider options to provide enhanced fall protection and related self-harm deterrent measures for the Fifth Street and Walnut Street municipal parking structure.
08/17/20 - 8/31/2020	Virtual IP Meeting
02/03/2020	R19-20 Authorizing an agreement for professional engineering services with Walker Consultants for conceptual design consulting services to provide enhanced fall protection and related self-harm deterrent measures for the Fifth Street and Walnut Street municipal parking

Suggested Council Action

Authorize the bid call through the purchasing division for construction and installation of fencing to provide enhanced fall protection and related self-harm deterrent measures for the Fifth Street and Walnut Street municipal parking structure.