

**CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: April 4, 2011  
Reviewed by: BP

**SUBJECT:** Buchanan / Jackson Traffic Signal & Intersection Safety  
Improvements at Ocean View School

**REPORT BY:** Aleida Andrino-Chavez, Transportation Planner  
Ana Bernardes, Associate Civil Engineer/Project Manager  
Randy Leptien, City Engineer

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the City Council finds the Bid submitted by Mike Brown Electric Company in the amount of \$316,213 to be the lowest responsible, responsive bid submitted for the Buchanan / Jackson Traffic Signal & Intersection Safety Improvements (Contract No. C10-22).
2. That the City Council awards the construction contract for the Buchanan / Jackson Traffic Signal & Intersection Safety Improvements (Contract No. C10-22) to Mike Brown Electric Company.
3. That the City Council authorizes the use of approximately \$58,075 of Measure F - 2006 funds and \$11,804 of TDA FY 2011-12 funds for this project, in addition to previously identified local and grant funding sources.

**BACKGROUND**

In 2007, the City received a \$293,760 grant from the state Safe Routes to School program to make pedestrian improvements around Ocean View School to enhance pedestrian safety and improve the walking route to this school. Key features of the project include:

- New traffic signal with protected left turn arrows at all four legs of Buchanan Street and Jackson Street intersection.
- Pedestrian countdown devices.
- Bulbouts at the southwest corner (next to school) and northwest corner of the Jackson/Buchanan intersection.
- New ADA compliant curb ramps at all four Buchanan/Jackson intersection corners.
- Replacement storm drain inlets and reconnected piping at the northeast and northwest corners of Buchanan/Jackson.

- Two solar speed feedback signs along Buchanan Street between San Pablo and Pierce Street.
- Crosswalk striping marking the route to Ocean View School at:
  - Pierce, Fillmore, Taylor, Cerrito and Jackson streets on north side of Buchanan St.
  - Both sides of Solano Avenue from Pierce Street to Jackson Street

In addition, this grant includes \$19,400 for educational component that along with the SR2S grant for Marin Elementary School has been funding the SR2S activities at the three elementary schools.

On September 12, 2009, the City Council approved the 35% design plans for this project prepared by AECOM Engineering, with the addition of dedicated left turn lanes at Jackson Street.

On December 13, 2010 the City Council approved the 100% Construction Plans for the project and authorized the City Clerk to Advertise for Bids contingent upon receipt of, and Council acceptance of, the Offer of Dedication and Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) from the University of California. The motion included authorization to the City Engineer to make minor changes to the plans reflecting final right of way determinations and utility company requirements that would not be substantive and would not affect the basic design.

On January 18, 2011 the Council adopted Resolution No. 2011-4 accepting an offer of dedication by the University of California for a portion of property to be used for the installation of curb ramps, a pedestrian/bikeway crosswalk, above and underground traffic signal equipment and facilities, and Resolution No. 2011-5 approving an agreement with the University of California for a temporary license to enter and construct improvements (temporary construction easement) associated with the project over that portion of Jackson Street located within the University Village.

Following the Council acceptance of right of way for the project on January 18<sup>th</sup>, the City Engineer approved the minor changes in the plans and the City Clerk placed advertisements for the project as authorized. Bids were opened and publicly read on March 25, 2011.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Report on Bids Received**

A total of nine bids were received. The bids, listed in ascending order are as follows:

	<b>Name of Contractor</b>	<b>Total Bid</b>
1.	Mike Brown Electric Co.	\$ 316,213.00
2.	St. Francis Electric	\$ 319,474.00
3.	Steiny and Company, Inc.	\$ 319,815.00
4.	Prism Engineering Inc.	\$ 336,613.50
5.	W. Bradley Electric, Inc.	\$ 339,339.00
6.	Redgwick Construction Co.	\$ 356,605.00
7.	Tennyson Electric, Inc.	\$ 359,270.00
8.	Ghilotti Bros, Inc.	\$ 379,034.00
9.	Ray's Electric	\$ 380,384.50

The Engineer's Estimate published in the Invitation to Bid was \$319,800. This estimate was revised to \$273,000 by Addendum No 1 to match the estimate that accompanied the staff report of December 13, 2011. Unfortunately, the higher estimate was the better of the two. The lower estimate was based upon the trend toward lower construction prices that has been experienced in recent months. The recent surge in the price of oil and uncertainties in the global market may have reversed this trend.

The apparent low bid was submitted by Steiny and Company, Inc. at \$304,655. However, there was an error in totaling the sum of the prices for the various bid items and the correct total amount of their bid was \$319,815, which placed them in third place. Minor errors in the bids submitted by three other contractors were also discovered. These errors did not affect the relative order of the bidders.

The low bid was therefore submitted by Mike Brown Electric Company (MBEC) of Cotati. MBEC is a licensed Contractor. References were requested and checked in accordance with the provisions included in the instructions and information to bidders. The Bid submitted by MBEC was properly prepared and contains all of the information required by the bid documents. The City Engineer has therefore determined that the bid submitted by MBEC is the lowest responsive, responsible bid.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

The project will bring increased safety to the area around Ocean View School. Safer routes to school encourage students, and their families, to walk to school and other nearby destinations (e.g., Ocean View Park), thereby reducing carbon emissions. The project dovetails with the Buchanan Bicycle and Pedestrian Path project which will provide an alternative means of travel to driving.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Because the bids came in higher than expected, and the accounting of the design and administration costs to are higher than reported on December 13, the project is now

underfunded by approximately \$65,000. The City is proposing to use its TDA allocation for FY 11-12 in the amount of \$11,804, and a portion of its Measure B FY09-10 in the amount of \$12,488 to reduce a portion of this deficit. To close the remaining funding gap of \$58,075.25, staff recommends use of Measure F- 2006 funds. The subject project includes street paving, compliant curb ramp construction, and storm drain replacement, all of which qualify for this funding source.

The following is a summary of the revenues and estimated costs for this project revised to include the bid results, and updated expenditures:

**Project Revenues**

Measure F-2002	\$ 40,973.00	
Measure B-ACTIA	\$ 35,731.00	
State Safe Routes 2 School	\$ 276,300.00	
Measure F 2006 (December 13, 2010)	\$ 31,936.00	
Measure B FY 09-10 (added)	\$ 12,488.00	
TDA FY 11-12 (added)	\$ 11,804.00	
Supplemental Measure F 2006 (added)	\$ <u>58,075.25</u>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 467,307.25</b>

**Estimated Expenses**

**Design and Adm. Costs**

Includes ROW/ AECOM/LCC/Eng	\$ 64,892.00
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**Construction costs**

Construction Costs	\$ 316,213.00	
10% Construction Contingency	\$ <u>31,621.30</u>	
Subtotal		\$ 347,834.30
Construction management Costs (15%)	\$ 47,431.95	
PG&E costs for relocation of pole	\$ 5,000.00	
Potholing of 24" Gas line	\$ <u>2,149.00</u>	
Subtotal		\$ <u>54,580.95</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 467,307.25</b>

**SUMMARY**

Staff recommends that the Council find that the bid submitted by MBEC is the lowest responsible, responsive bid, that the Contract be awarded to them, and that the Council authorize the use of additional Measure F 2006 funds to offset the funding shortfall for this significant safety improvement project.