

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

Agenda date: August 8, 2005
Date prepared: August 3, 2005
Reviewed by: _____

SUBJECT: 2005 Slurry Seal Project and the Marin Avenue Reconfiguration Project

REPORT BY: Ann Chaney, Community Development Director
Cherry Chaicharn, Transportation Planner
Randy Leptien, City Engineer

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council authorize the City Administrator to negotiate and award a contract(s) for the 2005 Slurry Seal project and the Marin Avenue Reconfiguration project in the event the contract amount exceeds the Engineer's Estimate.

Note: As of August 3, staff is negotiating with contractors for the best contract price. If the contract amount does not exceed the Engineer's Estimate, Council is not required to take any further action. Information regarding contract amount and timing of the project will be provided to the Council at, or prior to the August 8, 2005 meeting.

BACKGROUND

On July 18, 2005, the City Council authorized the City Administrator to award a contract for the 2005 Slurry Seal project, which includes the Marin Avenue Reconfiguration project, for an amount not to exceed the Engineer's Estimate. Staff also reported that in June 2005, the City advertised for bids through an extensive process. Such advertisement was sent to building exchange groups, individual contractors, and posted in the newspaper. On July 12, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., a bid opening was held to receive bids, however no companies chose to bid on this project.

According to the City of Albany Charter, Section 4.03 Contract Work, it states that: "If no bids are received the Council may have the project done without further complying with this section." Thus the City can select a contractor without further advertising.

As a result, staff is in the process of following up with contractors from the various companies that expressed an early interest in City-wide 2005 Slurry Seal project and the Marin Avenue Reconfiguration project.

Particularly regarding Marin Avenue, if staff is unable to negotiate a single contract for the entire Marin Avenue project, we will divide the project into parts and contract them separately (e.g., slurry seal, traffic control, striping). A verbal and written report will be made at the August 8 meeting with the most up-to-date information.

City staff is endeavoring to keep the City of Berkeley informed on our progress so that the striping work can occur at the same time. Staff also sent a notice in early July, alerting residents living on or near Marin Avenue of the upcoming project. The notice stated that work was anticipated to begin in early August. Once staff has a better understanding of the timing, we will send out a press release informing the public of the new schedule. A large metal sign will also be installed at the upper and lower ends of Marin Avenue letting motorists know of the project timing and to expect delays during construction. At this point in time, the Marin Avenue Reconfiguration portion will not occur until later in the fall after school starts. If the project is not completed this fall, the entire project may have to be delayed until spring due to wet weather conditions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Engineer's Estimate for the 2005 Slurry Seal project and the Marin Avenue Reconfiguration project is \$419,000. It is hoped that a contract can be negotiated for an amount not to exceed that estimate. If that is the case, no further Council action is needed. However, if staff cannot negotiate that contract, we may be returning to Council for authorization to exceed that amount.