



DATE: January 7, 2019

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council

VIA: Jeff Moneda, City Manager

FROM: Norm Dorais, Public Works Director/City Engineer

SUBJECT: LEVEE PROTECTION PLANNING AND IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
(CIP 301-657) - GENERAL UPDATE

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### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council of the City of Foster City review and accept, by Minute Order, an update on the Levee Protection Planning and Improvements Project (CIP 301-657).

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/ANALYSIS

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE, PLANNING COMMISSION, CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS**

At the May 3, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting, the Commissioners provided comments on the design options for the levee wall and landscaping treatment. After the passage of a \$90 million General Obligation Bond for the levee improvements Project in June 2018, the City Council, at its meeting on August 20, 2018, confirmed comments received from the Planning Commissioners and provided the following policy direction by Minute Order No. 1563 to allow completion of the final design:

1. The steel sheet pile with concrete cap will be installed along the majority of the levee with anti-graffiti paint on at least the street side;
2. Create visual interest through variation in wall height, treatment, and flooring changes at access points and bench areas as appropriate;
3. Landscape treatment will consist of drought-tolerant plant species at access points with remaining sections covered in ice plant;

4. Cost justification and timeliness shall be two of the main components used when considering enhanced aesthetics; and
5. Request the Parks and Recreation Committee provide general input on the design of wall treatments, trail improvements and landscaping at trail access points.

As directed by the City Council, the general design guidelines approved by the City Council were presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting on October 2, 2018. Comments received will be incorporated into the final design.

## **REGULATORY PERMITS**

Since Foster City residents voted to approve the levee bond in June 2018, the City's project team has prepared and submitted the regulatory permit applications. Along with the applications, letters of support from Senator Jerry Hill, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, and Assemblyman Kevin Mullin were also submitted. The attached table (Attachment 1) summarizes the permitting schedule and status (as of December 19, 2018), for the major regulatory agencies.

Simultaneously, the design team has been working on securing secondary permits required for specific locations within the project limits:

1. Caltrans Encroachment Permit for work adjacent to the San Mateo Bridge;
2. Right-of-way and right-of-entry agreements with private properties adjacent to the levee; and
3. Plan review and coordination with utility agencies for relocation of underground utilities.

The below tentative schedule is based on the most recent information available, and is subject to change based on the date that all permits are received. The schedule below is based on receiving permits by **August 2019**. It should be noted that every attempt to obtain permit approval prior to the August 2019 date will be pursued, including involvement of our elected officials, as appropriate (Congresswoman, Senator, and Assemblyman). Staff from all permitting agencies have indicated to the City's design team that the Project has been set by their management as having high priority.

Obtain Permits: August 2019

Approval of Plans and Specs and Call for Bids: September 2019

Bid Opening: November 2019

Award of Contract: January 2020

Notice to Proceed: February 2020

Construction Completion: 2022/2023

## FISCAL IMPACT

Once start of construction schedule is confirmed, General Obligation Bonds will be issued to coincide with the funding needs. There is an approximate 3-4 month lead time for bonds to be sold contemporaneous with the award of construction contracts. In addition, over the next few months, various options for the creation of a levee expenditures oversight committee, composed of citizens appointed by the City Council, will be outlined and presented to the City Council for further discussion.

### Attachment:

- Attachment 1 - Permitting Schedule and Status for the Major Regulatory Agencies