



REVISED
Item No. 9(1)

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: JANUARY 28, 2020

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: OCTAVIO HURTADO, CITY ENGINEER

RE: CONSIDERATION OF 2019 SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, INCLUDING ADOPTING FINDING OF A CLASS 1 CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15300 OF THE CEQA GUIDELINES AND CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION PURSUANT TO 24 CFR SECTION 58.35 (a) (NEPA) (REVISED)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the City Council: 1) approve the 2019 King City Sidewalk Improvement Project; 2) find that the Project is a Class 1 categorical exemption pursuant to Section 15300 of the CEQA Guidelines; and 3) find that the Project is categorically exempted, pursuant to Section 24 CFR Section 58.35 (a) (NEPA).

BACKGROUND:

Sidewalk repairs are one of the City's most serious infrastructure needs. However, the extent of the repairs needed makes it difficult for the City to make meaningful progress given minimal funding available. As a result, the City has focused its efforts on pursuing grant funding.

At the July 12, 2016 meeting, the City Council approved a recommended sidewalk improvement plan, which has been updated twice since then. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications have been submitted each of the last three years for funding to implement the plan, but the City was unsuccessful each time.

At the November 26, 2019 meeting, the City Council conducted a public hearing to receive public comment regarding possible CDBG activities and projects to be considered for funding this year and directed staff to prepare for Council consideration a CDBG application requesting up to \$3,500,000 for sidewalk improvements. That application will be presented to City Council for approval at the February 11th meeting.

**CITY COUNCIL
CONSIDERATION OF 2019 KING CITY SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT, INCLUDING ADOPTING FINDING OF A CLASS 1 CATEGORICAL
EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15300 OF THE CEQA GUIDELINES
AND 24 CFR §58.35 (a) (NEPA) (REVISED)
JANUARY 28, 2020
PAGE 2 OF 3**

DISCUSSION:

The criteria for selection of the CDBG award recipients has been changed this year. Project readiness is now the overriding criteria for approval. As a result, staff has proceeded to complete preparation of both Improvement Plans and Specifications and the environmental review process. As a result, if the CDBG grant is approved, the City will be able to immediately proceed with advertising for bids and construction of the project. If funded, staff believes the project could have a dramatic impact on the City's sidewalk system and infrastructure, improve accessibility and beautification, reduce liability, and invest in improvements that will be very visible and impactful to the community at-large.

Plans and Specifications for the 2019 King Sidewalk Improvement Project are attached for Council consideration. They include both repairs, as well as improvements where there are missing segments. If grant funding is approved, staff hopes to begin work in summer 2020. If the grant is not received, the Plans will assist in applying for other grants and in implementing improvements on an incremental basis as funding becomes available.

COST ANALYSIS:

The grant application could potentially result in \$3.5 million in additional funding to the City for these projects. There is no matching fund requirement and the grant will pay project administration and construction management costs.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

Staff has performed a preliminary environmental assessment of this project and has determined that it falls within the Categorical Exemption set forth in Section 15301, which exempts repair and maintenance of existing facilities. Furthermore, staff has determined that none of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this plan. The Project is also found to be a Categorically Excluded project that converts to Exempt, per 58.34(a)(12) because there are no circumstances which require compliance with any of the federal laws and authorities cited at §58.5. Funds (NEPA). On January 23, 2020, the City received a letter from the State Department of Parks and Recreation-Office of Historic Preservation indicating they have no objections to the City's environmental finding and that no historic properties will be affected by the sidewalk program.

**CITY COUNCIL
CONSIDERATION OF 2019 KING CITY SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT, INCLUDING ADOPTING FINDING OF A CLASS 1 CATEGORICAL
EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15300 OF THE CEQA GUIDELINES
AND 24 CFR §58.35 (a) (NEPA) (REVISED)
JANUARY 28, 2020
PAGE 3 OF 3**

ALTERNATIVES:

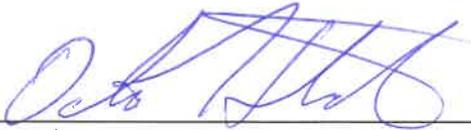
The following alternatives are presented for Council consideration:

1. Approve staff's recommendations;
2. Direct staff to modify the 2019 King City Sidewalk Improvement Project;
3. Do not authorize sidewalk improvements; or
4. Provide other direction to staff.

Exhibits:

1. 2019 King City Sidewalk Improvement Project Plans
2. 2019 King City Sidewalk Improvement Project Specs
3. January 15, 2020 Letter from the State Parks and Recreation–Office of Historic Preservation

Prepared by:



Octavio Hurtado, City Engineer

Approved by:



Steven Adams, City Manager