



Date: April 4, 2022

To: Wanda S. Page, City Manager
Through: Bertha T. Johnson, Deputy City Manager
From: Donald F. Greeley, Director, Water Management
Subject: Award of Construction Contract for the Eno River Force Main Relocation Project to J.F. Wilkerson Contracting Company, Inc.

Executive Summary

On January 12, 2022, the Department of Water Management (DWM) received and opened four bids for the Eno River Force Main Relocation Project. This project involves installation of approximately 4,500 feet of new 36-inch diameter pipe, that has experienced one break due to internal corrosion and found to contain several thousand feet of with internal corrosion. The overall pipe length of the Eno River Lift Station force main is approximately 26,000 feet. The project area is shown on the attached Exhibit Map.

DWM recommends the construction contract be awarded to J.F. Wilkerson Contracting Company, Inc., from Morrisville, North Carolina as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Additionally, DWM recommends a contingency of 10% be established for the project.

Motion

To authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with J.F. Wilkerson Contracting Company, Inc. for the Eno River Force Main Relocation Project in the amount of \$6,719,110.84;

To establish a contingency fund for the contract in the amount of \$671,191.08; and

To authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute change orders for the contract provided that the cost of all change orders together with the total contract cost does not exceed \$7,390,301.92.

Background

In the early 1990's, the City of Durham constructed the Eno River Lift Station and Force Main to pump sewage from the northern areas of Durham to the North Durham Water Reclamation Facility (NDWRF). The station, situated along the Eno River, pumps an average of 3.8 million gallons a day (MGD). The 36-inch diameter ductile iron force main is approximately 26,000 feet in length.

In June 2017, a section of the force main pipe developed a grapefruit-sized hole that was later determined to be caused by internal corrosion. Fortunately, no wastewater spill occurred, as soil at and near the hole fell back into the pipe, still containing the wastewater.

Using access points along the force main surrounding the corrosion point an inspection of the pipeline interior was performed. This inspection showed substantial delamination of the interior's protective lining and corrosion of the ductile iron pipe itself. In time, without a protective interior liner, this critical force main will continue to fail.

The City retained the services of a consultant to fully investigate the best options for repair and/or replacement of the deteriorated section. The selected alternative involves installing approximately 4,500 feet of new pipe in a different alignment while the existing pipe is kept in service. The existing pipeline route could not be used because of nearby utilities and structures, insufficient easement width for installing new pipe and the presence of bedrock that would require significant blasting for its removal. The pipe route is shown on the attached Exhibit Map.

Issues and Analysis

The invitation to bid was advertised in early November 2021 and bids were opened on January 12, 2022. The Engineers estimate for this project was \$5.8- \$6.6M. All bids were evaluated and deemed responsive. The summary results are:

Bidder	Bid Amount
J.F. Wilkerson Contracting Company, Inc.	\$6,719,110.84
Cleary Construction Inc.	\$7,986,555.84
Thalle Construction Company	\$8,684,481.84
Metra Industries	\$8,847,410.84

The design consultant, Carter Engineering, as well as City staff, evaluated the low bidder’s track record, speaking to several current and past clients. All spoke well of the contractor’s work and attention to detail. DWM has worked with them on numerous large projects over the past 5 years. The City’s Risk Management Division has reviewed the Safety Data Information and found it to be acceptable. Additionally, the City’s Equity & Inclusion Department has also reviewed the E101 Form and Good Faith Effort documentation and has no objections to awarding this project to J.F. Wilkerson Contracting, Inc.

Alternatives

Alternative #1 - would be to disapprove award to J.F. Wilkerson Contracting, Inc. and re-advertise the project. Without a change to the scope of work, a re-bid would likely not result in lowering the project costs. In fact, a re-bid would likely result in higher bids in today’s construction market.

Alternative #2 – not going forward with the project at this time. This alternative is not recommended as the pipeline has already shown signs of deterioration.

Financial Impact:

There are sufficient funds available in the following CIP accounts:

Sewer Rehabilitation	4100P002 – 731000 – P28WB	\$6,719,110.84
	4100P002 – 731900 – P28WB	<u>\$671,191.08</u>
	Total	\$7,390,301.92

Equal Business Opportunity Summary

The Equity & Inclusion Department reviewed the bid submitted by JF Wilkerson Contracting Inc. of Mooresville, NC to determine if they are in compliance with Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting. The goals are MUBE 11% and WUBE 7%. After a Good Faith Effort review JF Wilkerson Contracting Inc. is in compliance with the Ordinance to promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

JF Wilkerson Contracting Inc. will utilize the following certified firms:

Firm	ID	City/State	Amount	% of Contract
Autry Construction Company	MUBE	Zebulon, NC	\$700,000.00	10.4%
Covenant Trucking Company	MUBE	Youngsville, NC	\$10,000.00	0.1%

Contractor Workforce Diversity & Hiring Practices

According to the contractor’s responses to the “Contractor Workforce Diversity Questionnaire,” the contractor is a medium employer (50 to 100 employees), consisting of a mix of professional/skilled and unskilled workers. The contractor believes it has a diverse workforce because it employs 45 of 62 minority persons. The contractor did list one example of efforts it makes to have a more diverse workforce.

Part A - Employee Diversity Breakdown Table for Primary Location

Employment Category	Total Employees	Total Males	Total Females	M-----a-----1-----es					F---e---m---a---1---e -----S				
				White	Black	Hispanic	Asian or Pacific Islander	Indian or Alaskan Native	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian or Pacific Island	Indian or Alaskan Native
Project Manger	3	3		3									
Professional	21	20	1	3	3	14			1				
Labor	36	36		9	5	22							
Clerical	2	1	1	1							1		
Totals	62	60	2	16	8	36			1		1		

Part B - Employee Diversity Breakdown for the Consolidated Company

				M-----a-----1-----e-----s					F-----m-----a-----1-----e-----s				
Employment Category	Total Employees	Total Males	Total Females	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian or Pacific Islander	Indian or Alaskan Native	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian or Pacific Islander	Indian or Alaskan Native
Project Manger													
Professional													
Labor													
Clerical													
Totals													

Attachments

- Unit Price Bid Pages
- Equity & Inclusion Department Compliance Report
- Exhibit Map
- Agreement Section