



Date: August 12, 2011

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager
From: Donald F. Greeley, Director, Water Management
Renee C. Lawrence, Civil Engineer, Water Management
Subject: License Agreement with North Carolina Railroad Company and Norfolk Southern Railway Company for Transverse Crossings for the Hillandale Dual Waterline Replacement Project – Phase II

Executive Summary

The City is proposing to construct a 36 inch potable waterline along West Main Street as part of the Hillandale Dual Waterline Replacement Project – Phase II. The waterline will replace existing 12 inch and 20 inch waterlines that were originally installed in 1887 and 1901, respectively. The project will run from Rutherford Street (west of Erwin Square) to east of Buchanan Boulevard. The proposed waterline will interconnect to existing distribution waterlines that transverse the North Carolina Railroad (NCR) Company and the Norfolk Southern Railway (NSR) Company Right-Of-Way (ROW). Therefore in order for the City to complete the proposed work, the City must execute the License Agreement.

Recommendation

The Department of Water Management recommends that the City Council:

Authorize the City Manager to execute the License Agreement with NCR Company and NSR Company for three transverse crossings for the proposed removal, installation, maintenance, and operation, of one 6-inch and two 12-inch ductile iron water pipelines.

Background

As part of the Water Systems Improvement Project to increase the distribution system reliability, the City hired the engineering firm Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to design the Hillandale Dual Waterline Replacement Project - Phase II. The project design centers on the installation of 5,400 linear feet of 36 inch waterline. The project design also includes various interconnections with existing distribution waterlines that must be rerouted from the existing 12 and 20 inch waterlines that were originally installed in the years 1887 and 1901. Along West Main Street, there are portions of the 12 and 20 inch waterlines that reside within the railroad right-of way and NCDOT right-of-way.

Currently there is one 6 inch waterline and two 12 inch waterlines that transverse the railroad right-of-way to provide potable water to locations north of West Main Street from the existing 12 and 20 inch waterlines. In order to connect the new 36 inch waterline to these three existing distribution lines, the City must enter into a license agreement with NCR and NSR. The City's license agreement with NCR and NSR will also allow the City to decommission and abandon the 12 inch and 20 inch waterlines.

Issues and Analysis

Much of the Hillandale Dual Waterline Replacement Project – Phase II resides within the railroad right-of-way or NCDOT right-of-way. The existing 12 and 20 inch waterlines that are within the railroad right-of-way have waterline interconnections that provide potable water to Duke University East Campus and other locations north and south of the railroad. Three of the interconnections must be transferred to the new 36 inch waterline that will run along the north side of West Main Street.

Another project issue centers on the timing for completion of a portion of this project. The timeline for the installation of the 36 inch pipeline, as well as the decommissioning of the existing 12 and 20 inch waterlines, is critical to NCDOT plans to replace the Main Street Bridge at Campus Drive. Failure to gain access to do the proposed work on the 6 inch, 12 inch, and 20 inch waterlines may have an adverse impact on NCDOT's project timeline for bridge replacement.

In order to minimize the potential for delays to the City's or NCDOT's projects, the City must execute the transverse crossing license agreement with NCRR and NSR and submit all fees required to process the license agreement.

Alternatives

The only alternative would be to not proceed with the project. Failure to obtain access to complete work within the railroad right-of-way would hinder the abandonment of the existing 12-inch and 20-inch waterlines and lead to additional capital costs to reconnect portions of the distribution system to active pipelines.

Financial Impact

The cost to process the license agreement is \$ 5,538.08. There are currently funds available for this license agreement in the 4100P761-730300-P0BB3.

SDBE Summary

This is a pipeline crossing license agreement. This was not reviewed for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

Attachments

License Agreement and Maps