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Title: Action on a Resolution Authorizing the Use of City Electric Forces for New Dark Fiber Installations at Various Locations

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Attachments: 1. Resolution - Use of City Forces, 2. Resolution No. 22-9120

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
7/12/2022	1	City Council and Authorities Concurrent		

REPORT TO COUNCIL

SUBJECT

Action on a Resolution Authorizing the Use of City Electric Forces for New Dark Fiber Installations at Various Locations

COUNCIL PILLAR

Deliver and Enhance High Quality Efficient Services and Infrastructure

BACKGROUND

Charter Section 1310 titled Contracts on Public Works states, in part, “that every contract involving an expenditure of more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the construction or improvement (excluding maintenance and repair) of public buildings, works, streets, drains, sewers, utilities, parks and playgrounds shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder.” The section further states that “the City Council may declare and determine that, in its opinion, the work in question may be performed better or more economically by the City with its own employees, and after the adoption of a resolution to this effect by at least four affirmative votes, it may proceed to have said work done in the manner stated, without further observance of the provisions of this section.”

In 2014, the Electric Department developed a position called Fiber Splicing Technician as an in-house position to primarily perform maintenance and repairs to meet the fiber performance standards of then existing fiber customers that includes both City departments as well as commercial lease customers. Fiber Splicing Technician activities include basic splicing and distribution changes to fiber optic cables. The technician can also perform duties such as pulling, laying, aligning and positioning fiber optic equipment to prepare for a new connection to the fiber network. Fiber Splicing Technicians perform fusion splicing at building entrances and in maintenance spaces. At this time, SVP employs two Fiber Splicing Technicians.

DISCUSSION

Currently, the SVP Fiber Enterprise serves SVP, other City department functions, and various commercial lease customers. As the work is specialized, the position of Fiber Splicer Technician performs a variety of activities from maintenance and repair to new or re-spliced interconnections to the SVP Fiber Enterprise. Each interconnection can be unique involving different hours of labor depending on the number of fibers required to be spliced and the particular location within the network. Technician time is tracked hourly and not on a per fiber basis.

Large or extensive projects involving extending fiber cable being laid along new paths or great distances or adding conduit or related infrastructure are done using a previously bid unit price Public Works contract with a private construction contractor. SVP spends up to \$1 million per year on this public works contract for new Fiber network construction and certain maintenance and repair activities.

Staff believes that the Fiber Splicer Technician work that may be required in new construction projects is best and most efficiently performed with City forces based upon the following factors: (1) the work is limited in size and scope; (2) City forces have knowledge and training in operating and maintaining and repairing the fiber optic system that can be leveraged to more economically perform this work; and (3) bidding out the work and contracting with a private entity would not likely result in a lower overall cost or time savings. Therefore, staff recommends that the City Council make a finding that City forces can better perform the Fiber Splicing and related equipment installation, splicing and connections to the existing SVP Fiber infrastructure and approve the use of City forces.

Estimate Number: FWM#1438
Location: Lafayette Street to Calle Del Mundo
Description of Work: Splice, terminate, and test fibers from Lafayette Street to Calle Del Mundo
Estimated Cost: \$4,476
Appropriation: Electric Utility Capital Fund (591) Project 2004 - Fiber Development Design & Expansion
Source of Revenue: Developer Contribution

Estimate Number: FWM#1217
Location: Fairway Glen Park
Description of Work: Splice, terminate, and test fibers at Fairway Glen Park
Estimated Cost: \$4,335
Appropriation: Electric Utility Capital Fund (591) Project 2004 - Fiber Development Design & Expansion
Source of Revenue: Developer Contribution

Estimate Number: FWM#1127
Location: Montague Park
Description of Work: Splice, terminate, and test fibers
Estimated Cost: \$2,268
Appropriation: Electric Utility Capital Fund (591) Project 2004 - Fiber Development Design & Expansion
Source of Revenue: Developer Contribution

Estimate Number: FWM#0286
Location: 2800 Mead Avenue
Description of Work: Splice, terminate, and test fibers

Estimated Cost: \$3,372
Appropriation: Electric Utility Capital Fund (591) Project 2004 - Fiber Development Design & Expansion
Source of Revenue: Developer Contribution

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The actions being considered are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15302(c) (Class 2 - Replacement or Reconstruction) because they involve the replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible expansion of capacity, and 15303(d) (Class 3 - New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), because they involve the construction of new electric utility extensions.

FISCAL IMPACT

The funds to support the staff time for work performed by SVP and related construction materials for the work detailed in this report, totaling \$14,451, are included in the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Capital Budget, Fiber Development, Design, and Expansion project in the Electric Utility Capital Fund. All referenced work will be performed with City Electric Forces (SVP staff). Some work associated with encroachment permits may be performed by the Department of Public Works (DPW). DPW costs are recovered through payment of permit fees.

COORDINATION

This report has been coordinated with the Finance Department and City Attorney's Office.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall Council Chambers. A complete agenda packet is available on the City's website and in the City Clerk's Office at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting and 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting. A hard copy of any report to Council may be requested by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (408) 615-2220, email clerk@santaclaraca.gov <<mailto:clerk@santaclaraca.gov>> or at the public information desk at any City of Santa Clara public library.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the use of City Electric Forces for work detailed in this report located at Lafayette Street to Calle Del Mundo, Fairway Glen Park, Montague Park, and 2800 Mead Avenue.

Reviewed by: Manuel Pineda, Chief Electric Utility Officer

Approved by: Rajeev Batra, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution - Use of City Electric Forces