

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: October 4, 2016
To: Honorable Mayor and Honorable City Councilmembers
From: Henry Mikus, Engineering Manager
Subject: Discussion and Action of Repair of Bodega Avenue/High Street Pedestrian Crosswalk
Recommendation: Provide Direction to Staff.
Funding: Currently Budgeted: Yes No N/A
Net General Fund Cost: \$ none
\$100,000 original estimated cost; would be paid for from the Pavement Fund

INTRODUCTION: Staff is asking for direction from Council regarding a pavement and crosswalk repair project that is listed in the current Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

BACKGROUND: A crosswalk with in-pavement flashing lights activated via push-buttons was installed at the intersection of Bodega Avenue and High Street several years ago. For this intersection, existing pavement remained in place and had cut-outs put in to fit the flashing lights, which were relatively flush with the pavement. However, the pavement has not held up well, has deteriorated, and has resulted in broken or dislodged lights. In order to maintain a functional flashing light crosswalk, the pavement should either be repaired or replaced. A potential project was listed in the FY 15-16 CIP for repairing the pavement, and the crosswalk lights. The project had a \$100,000 budget, and was listed again in the new CIP for the current fiscal year. This budget amount is a place-holder, as the true cost of the work cannot be accurately figured until the condition of the layers below the wearing surface layer are thoroughly examined as pavement is removed. If the base and sub-base courses are in adequate shape, costs could be more reasonable, while discovery of substandard lower layers might be cause for added expense. Other cost factors are pavement cross-section geometry plus any associated work that might be required such as upgrades to ADA curb ramps.

DISCUSSION: This past spring, concurrent with the budget and CIP approval process, Sebastopol citizens approached both Council members and staff with safety concerns about another Bodega Avenue intersection, this time at the intersection with Nelson Way/Gold Ridge. Staff was directed to engage a consulting firm to do a safety study of several intersections along the Bodega Avenue corridor, which is nearing completion. The study report will list several alternatives for safety enhancements along the Bodega corridor. Due to timing, no specific allocation of funds was included in the CIP for any potential actions set forth by the Council. However, there were four CIP projects, including the \$100,000 for Bodega/High repairs, that involved street-related work along Bodega Avenue. These projects have been held in abeyance pending any conclusions for Bodega safety improvements the Council might decide are in order:

Bodega/High intersection repair	\$100,000	planned FY 16-17
Nelson Crosswalk	\$51,596	planned FY 16-17

Bodega Sidewalk gap closure
Ragle Crosswalk

\$250,000
\$206,785

Agenda Item Number: 9
planned FY 17-18
no FY set yet

These projects' estimates total \$608,831 although not all the work is funded. The two slated for FY 16-17 have been held to both give some flexibility regarding funding for any possible Council action, plus so these projects' work can be contracted together with any other safety projects along the Bodega corridor to achieve an economy of scale.

Recently there has surfaced some sentiment that the Bodega/High work should proceed regardless, hence the request from staff to the Council for direction. The two obvious choices would be either continue to hold up this work until decisions are made about the other companion safety improvements, or to proceed with the Bodega/High work in any case.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council decide whether or not to proceed with a capital project to repair the Bodega/High intersection.

Attachment(s):

None