

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Motion to reject bid protest and award Bid No. 26013, Urban Core Bike Network Connections Phase 1 (CIP Plan No. PW-WB-85) to Always Active Services, LLC, as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, in an amount up to \$747,890.50, plus all applicable taxes.

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Transportation Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**ACTION**

Motion to reject bid protest and award Bid No. 26013, Urban Core Bike Network Connections Phase 1 (CIP Plan No. PW-WB-85) to Always Active Services, LLC in an amount up to \$747,890.50, plus all applicable taxes.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to reject bid protest and award Bid No. 26013, Urban Core Bike Network Connections Phase 1 (CIP Plan No. PW-WB-85), to Always Active Services, LLC as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

In March 2023, the City Council approved eight Bike Bellevue project principles and directed staff to work with the Transportation Commission to prepare and submit an implementation recommendation to the Transportation Director. The Bike Bellevue initiative envisioned the implementation of low-cost, rapid build bicycle facilities on existing streets in the Downtown, Wilburton and BelRed neighborhoods. In most cases, a “low-cost, rapid build” implementation of Bike Bellevue would require the repurposing of vehicle travel lanes to provide the space for protected bicycle lanes. The community response to Bike Bellevue was mixed, with support for improved bicycle facilities for access and safety and concerns about converting vehicle travel lanes to protected bicycle facilities.

On March 25, 2024, the council directed the Transportation Commission to provide a recommendation to the Director for each of the eleven proposed Bike Bellevue corridors.

The Transportation Commission voted to recommend to the Transportation Director at their meetings on April 11, May 23, and July 11, 2024. The Transportation Commission recommended to proceed with final design and implementation of Bike Bellevue corridors that would not involve the repurposing of a vehicle travel lane. The following corridors are included in the Urban Core Bike Network Connections project:

1. 100th Ave NE – Main St to NE 1st St
2. 116th Ave NE – Main St to NE 4th St
3. 120th Ave NE – NE 4th St to NE Spring Blvd

4. Lake Washington Blvd – 99th Ave NE to 100th Ave NE
5. NE 1st St / NE 2nd St – 100th Ave NE to 108th Ave NE
6. NE 4th St – 116th Ave NE to 120th Ave NE
7. Northup Way – 120th Ave NE to 124th Ave NE

On May 13, 2025, the council authorized a resolution to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Fehr & Peers to complete the engineering design for the Urban Core Bike Network Connections projects. On June 25, 2025, due to the budget and funding constraints from CIP No. PW-WB-85, the project’s design delivery was changed to be designed in-house and the Transportation Director provided direction to separate the Urban Core Bike Network Connections project into multiple phases, with Phase 1 being constructed in 2026. Therefore, Phase 1 of the Urban Core Bike Network Connections includes the following four corridors:

1. 100th Ave NE – Main St to NE 1st St
2. 116th Ave NE – Main St to NE 8th St (the project limits were extended in the design phase)
3. Lake Washington Blvd – 99th Ave NE to 100th Ave NE
4. NE 1st St – 100th Ave NE to Bellevue Way NE

This project will install striped and buffered bike lanes (where possible) on 100th Ave NE between Main St and NE 1st St, 116th Ave NE between Main St to NE 8th St, and Lake Washington Blvd between 99th Ave NE and 100th Ave NE. The project will install shared lane markings on NE 1st St between 100th Ave NE and Bellevue Way NE. The project also includes sign installations, signal modifications, and grind and overlay at specific sections as a result of the signal modifications. When complete, the bicycle facilities within the project area will meet or exceed the Level of Traffic Stress performance target set by the Mobility Implementation Plan.

Following verification of bid submittals, the bids received were as follows:

Sunset Grill Construction, Inc.*	\$ 648,071.04
Always Active Services, LLC	\$ 747,890.50
MidMountain Contractors, Inc.	\$ 767,000.00
EKM General Contractors, LLC	\$ 778,318.00
Northwest Cascade, Inc.	\$ 792,792.00
Granite Construction Co.	\$ 887,361.25
Engineer’s Estimate	\$788,507.00

*Non-responsible

Reasons for the non-responsible bid are as follows:

Based on reference checks, staff determined that the contractor showed a pattern of poor performance, ineffective management, poor record of financial and personnel management, and lack of similar project experience.

On March 13, 2026, a formal bid protest was received from Always Active Services, LLC disputing the responsibility of Sunset Grill Construction, Inc. based on their bid package, specifically their incomplete and poor references. Upon contacting the references provided by Sunset Grill Construction, the city was unable to confirm that Sunset Grill Construction possesses the requisite experience and ability to

satisfactorily complete the work. On April 8, a determination letter was sent to Sunset Grill Construction, Inc. deeming them a non-responsible bidder and rejecting its bid for the project. No response was received, and the determination became final two business days later.

Staff also recommend rejection of the bid protest from Always Active Services, LLC as the firm is the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Staff recommend awarding this contract to Always Active Services, LLC.

To the best of our knowledge and professional judgment, all factors that normally contribute to construction expenses have been accounted for in the contract. Based on staff's experience, projects of this type may result in some field changes. All claims are rigorously reviewed and only those that are clearly necessary to accomplish the intent of the contract, but have somehow not been provided for, will be paid.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Section:

- TR-17: Scope, plan, design, implement, operate and maintain a complete and multimodal transportation network in accordance with the Performance Metrics, Performance Targets and Performance Management Areas as established in the Mobility Implementation Plan.
- TR-94: Promote and facilitate active transportation.
- TR-96: Implement the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan and evaluate, describe, and prioritize projects that address Performance Target gaps through the Mobility Implementation Plan.

Fiscal Impact

Awarding this bid will oblige the city to \$747,890.50, plus all applicable taxes, to complete the Urban Core Bike Network Connections Phase 1 project. This amount is approximately 5% below the Engineer's Estimate. Sufficient funding exists in the 2025-2030 General Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Plan through the Bicycle Network Facilities Implementation program (CIP Plan No. PW-WB-85) to fully fund this contract.

OPTIONS

1. Reject bid protest and award Bid No. 26013, Urban Core Bike Network Connections Phase 1 (CIP Plan No. PW-WB-85), to Always Active Services, LLC as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in an amount up to \$747,890.50, plus all applicable taxes.
2. Reject all bids and provide alternative directions to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Vicinity Map
- B. CIP Project Description (PW-WB-85)

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A