

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Motion to (1) reject the bids from Accord Contractors, LLC, and Earthwork Solutions, LLC as nonresponsive; and (2) award Bid No. 24105 for the Bogline Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project to Laser Underground & Earthworks, Inc., as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$2,143,900, plus all applicable taxes (CIP Plan No. S-66).

Lucy Liu, Director, 452-4445
 Linda De Boldt, Assistant Director of Engineering, 452-4625
Utilities Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ACTION

This motion will award Bid No. 24105 to Laser Underground & Earthworks, Inc., for the Bogline Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to (1) reject the bids from Accord Contractors, LLC, and Earthwork Solutions, LLC as nonresponsive; and (2) award Bid No. 24105 for the Bogline Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project to Laser Underground & Earthworks, Inc.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Bogline Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project is located along existing and proposed public easements through several backyards of private properties west of 158th Avenue SE between SE 13th Street and SE 11th Street and within the right of way in 158th Avenue SE. This project is to replace sewer pipes that are approaching the end of their useful life. A few segments of the pipe system at the southwest corner of the project area are in poor soils and have settled, causing low points where solids settle inside the pipe. Maintenance crews need to flush the system monthly to prevent sewage backups and maintain sewer service to customers.

To reduce maintenance and increase reliability of sewer service, this project will replace about 1,275 LF of sewer pipe. Approximately 30 percent of this pipe is in poor soils and will be pile supported to avoid future settlement. In addition to excavation and pipe installation, the work includes vegetation removal and replacement, installation of utilities maintenance hole structures, restoration of disturbed areas on private property, franchise utility relocations, and pavement restoration.

About 1,000 LF of pipe is located in existing and proposed public easements along the back yards and side yards of private properties. To facilitate construction, the City has obtained additional construction easements from required properties.

Bids were opened on December 12 and are as follows.

Contractor	Bid (excluding taxes)
<i>Accord Contractors, LLC</i>	<i>\$1,082,484.00</i>
<i>Earthwork Solutions, LLC</i>	<i>\$1,930,131.96</i>

Laser Underground & Earthworks, Inc.	\$2,143,900.00
Road Construction Northwest, Inc.	\$2,153,431.00
Bayshore Construction Company	\$2,555,682.00
Northwest Cascade, Inc.	\$2,663,337.00
Engineer's Estimate	\$1,737,350.00

During bid evaluation, staff identified items from the submissions of the first and second low bidders to render their bids nonresponsive: *i.e.*, failure to identify contractor/subcontractor for installation of structural steel; failure to identify contractor/subcontractor for installation of rebar; and unbalanced bids.

On December 17, 2024, the lowest bidder, Accord Contractors, LLC conceded error and withdrew its bid.

On December 20, 2024, the City advised the second lowest bidder, Earthwork Solutions, LLC, that staff had determined that its bid proposal was non-responsive. Earthwork Solutions, LLC, has not protested this determination.

The bid from Laser Underground & Earthworks, Inc. is approximately \$407,000 or 23 percent over the Engineer's estimate. This higher bid is likely due to construction difficulties in the space constrained public easements in private back yards. Staff performed an in-depth analysis of the bid as compared to the Engineer's estimate and have found Laser Underground & Earthworks' bid to be responsive and responsible.

To the best of staff's knowledge, all factors that normally contribute to construction expenses have been accounted for in the plans, specifications and Engineer's estimate. It is our experience that construction projects of this type usually result in some amount of field changes. Such claims are rigorously reviewed and only those that are clearly necessary to accomplish the intent of the contract, but have not been provided for, will be paid.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Utilities Department policies: To invest resources as necessary to construct, maintain and renew sewer system infrastructure and equipment so that Utility customers are provided with consistent, reliable service.

Utilities Department practice: Rehabilitate or replace deteriorated elements of the wastewater system. CIP Plan No. S-66 has been designated to do this.

Bellevue City Code 4.28.040 requires the City to competitively bid public works in accordance with City Codes and state law. Council approval is required to award the bid where the cost exceeds \$350,000.

Fiscal Impact

Awarding this bid commits the City to payment of \$2,143,900, plus all applicable taxes. This contract is funded through the Sewer System Pipeline Replacement Program (CIP Plan No. S-66). Sufficient funds to fund this contract are in the 2025-2030 Utilities Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget.

OPTIONS

1. Reject the bids from Accord Contractors, LLC, and Earthwork Solutions, LLC as nonresponsive and award Bid No. 24105 for the Bogline Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project to Laser Underground & Earthworks, Inc., as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$2,143,900, plus all applicable taxes (CIP Plan No. S-66).
2. Reject all bids and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Vicinity Map

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A