

March 20, 2017

## **CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ITEM**

### **SUBJECT**

Provide Council with a general update on current Transportation Capital Investment Program (CIP) projects and seek direction on the Newport Way Improvements – Somerset Boulevard to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE project (PW-R-185).

### **STAFF CONTACTS**

Dave Berg, Director, 452-6468  
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### **POLICY ISSUES**

The Adopted Budget sets the scope, schedule and budget for projects within the CIP. Amendments to the budget require Council approval via ordinance.

Ordinance No. 6333, adopted on December 5, 2016, approved the 2017-2023 Capital Investment Program Plan, setting the project spending plan for the 7-year CIP. Recent Ordinances, such as Ordinance 6346 recognizing the approved levy funds into the CIP, modify the CIP over time to recognize new revenues (i.e. grants) and/or to adjust project budgets from time to time.

### **DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL**

#### **ACTION**



#### **DIRECTION**



#### **INFORMATION ONLY**



Staff will provide project background and status updates on several Transportation CIP projects and details of a grant received for the 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE project (PW-R-166). In addition, staff will report on results of the design analysis on the Newport Way Improvements Project -150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to Somerset Boulevard (PW-R-185) and seeks feedback on a preferred alternative recognizing the potential budget impact.

### **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

Past Council Actions related to Newport Way:

During the development of the City's 2015-2021 Capital Improvement Program Plan (CIP) budget, several public hearings were held to solicit comments from the public regarding the City's future budget priorities. At the May 19, July 7, October 20 and November 17, 2014 Council budget meetings, numerous residents from the Eastgate/Somerset area explained the critical need for pedestrian and bicycle improvements to Newport Way between Tyee Middle School and The South Bellevue Community Center.

On December 1, 2014, Council approved Ordinance No. 6209 adopting the 2015-2021 CIP which included the SE Newport Way Project (CIP Plan No. PW-R-185). The project was funded with a budget of \$8.1 million to develop the design, acquire right-of-way, and construct improvements on SE Newport Way – 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to Somerset Blvd.

On January 4, 2016, Council approved Resolution No. 9048 authorizing the execution of a

Professional Service Agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. to provide design alternative analysis and develop preliminary design plans for the selected alternative improvements on SE Newport Way between 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and Somerset Boulevard. (CIP Plan No. PW-R-185).

On December 5, 2016, Council approved Ordinance No. 6333 adopting the 2017-2023 CIP Plan, which includes \$8.1 million in total project costs for the SE Newport Way Project – 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to Somerset Boulevard (CIP Plan No. PW-R-185).

#### General CIP:

In 2017 we will see the completion of several major Transportation CIP projects, including projects that are being used as part of our required TIFIA match. To be considered a project eligible for a match there are a number of requirements that these projects must meet. Staff have been working with WSDOT Local Programs as administrators to the federal funding process and local Federal Highway Administration staff on reviewing all match projects as well as future-TIFIA funded projects.

#### Newport Way Improvements:

In response to safety needs and repeated neighborhood requests, Council added the Newport Way Improvements project to the 2015-2021 CIP. The intent of this project was to construct a pedestrian facility on one-side of Newport Way between Somerset Boulevard and 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to connect schools, library, churches and the Community Center. This segment of SE Newport Way is within the Eastgate area of Bellevue which was recently annexed into the City from King County. The corridor carries approximately 7,000 vehicles during the average weekday. There are currently very limited pedestrian or bicycle facilities along this section of Newport Way requiring users to navigate very narrow shoulders to walk and bike. Additionally, there are no designated street crossings for users desiring access to the popular destinations including Tyee Middle School, a branch of the King County library system, Eastgate Park, and the South Bellevue Community Center. This project is identified as a high priority in the City's 2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan, and implements the vision outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan policies.

The complete project description and scope included conducting a design alternatives analysis in coordination with the community, complete design, and a placeholder for construction of the identified roadway and non-motorized improvements to Newport Way. Specific improvements may include sidewalks on at least one side, pedestrian crossing facilities, bike lanes (if feasible) on both sides, turn lanes where necessary, and other potential roadway amenities including illumination, landscaping, irrigation, storm drainage and water quality treatments.

Past City improvements to the east and west of this project area constructed new pedestrian and bicycle facilities on Newport Way. The intention of this project is to provide at least a continuous pedestrian facility on SE Newport Way from Factoria Boulevard SE to 152<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE.

The design of this project will be implemented in two phases. The first phase will:

- Conduct a design alternative analysis in coordination with the local community and other project stakeholders to obtain informed consent on the selected design alternative;
- Prepare preliminary engineering to a 30 percent design level of the selected design alternative, to be able to develop accurate cost estimates for the construction and the right of way acquisition for this project; and,
- Prepare SEPA environmental documentation for the selected design alternative.

The second phase of the project will complete the design, acquire necessary permits, and prepare the contract documents for construction. Staff will return to Council to seek approval for a supplement to this agreement to complete final design for this project.

#### Newport Way Project Alternatives:

Since spring 2016, City staff have been meeting with groups individually to hear their concerns, ideas and perspectives. The City also held an in-person open house in March 2016 to invite public feedback on several design options and the project's cross-sections, appearance and design features.

At the March open house, the project team presented project information and design concepts including:

- Project background and purpose
- Preliminary project schedule
- Existing corridor conditions map and photos
- Potential project improvement elements/concepts including sidewalk, mixed-use path, bike lane, mid-block crossing, pedestrian refuge island, planted buffer, painted buffer, and raised median. Concepts were represented by photographs of similar improvements built within the city.

Attendees (approximately 50) were invited to identify concepts they found most favorable, and comment forms were distributed for attendees to record their comments.

Residents and staff noted that bicycle facilities have been constructed on Newport Way projects to the east and west of this project location. Inclusion of bicycle facilities into this project would provide an integrated pedestrian/bicycle system on Newport Way. Staff will present the base pedestrian facility concept as well as options that include bicycle facilities with their associated costs for consideration.

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

N/A

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff is seeking feedback on a proposed path forward in selecting a preferred alternative recognizing the potential budget impact of each alternative identified to date.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. CIP Project Description No. PW-R-185
- B. Vicinity Map

#### **AVAILABLE IN THE COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY:**

Consultant Contract Scope of Work