



## **CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

### **Public Works Committee Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date:** February 3, 2020

**Prepared By:** John Anderson, Acting City Engineer

**Agenda Item:** North St culvert/ Safe Routes to Schools grant

**Explanation:** The culvert located on North St., East of Main St., and within a Safe Routes to School section has recently developed a hole in the top of the culvert barrel. The damage is located at a previous repair location. The hole is significant enough that the street shoulder/curb-line has been barricaded to deter vehicles from driving in said area. NE Finch (contractor for Stratford Drive bridge) has been given authority to proceed with an emergency repair, with repairs tentatively scheduled for the week of February 3rd. NE Finch has given a preliminary quote of \$6500 to repair but the payment will be made on a "time and material" basis due to several unknowns and difficulty arriving at a fair estimate. The "time and material" procedures will follow IDOT guidelines.

The more pressing issue with the culvert is the concern over its overall condition (see pictures) based on its advanced age (estimated 70+ years) and its apparent insufficient hydraulic capacity due to recent upstream residential development. Public Works staff has indicated the culvert area has been subject to some flooding, with the roadway recently nearly being overtopped in an early January 2020 storm event. With the concern over condition, age and hydraulic capacity, it would seem prudent to commence engineering to replace the culvert in forthcoming budget cycle.

The replacement of this culvert, and probable adjustment to North St. profile/street grades for hydraulic capacity improvement, will adversely affect plans to install sidewalks in this area in accordance with the stipulations of the SRTS grant. Grant conditions for the SRTS require Federal authorization by October 2020. It appears not to be logical to proceed further with engineering and construction of sidewalk in this area due to the likelihood that a good portion would have to be removed with the culvert replacement. New sidewalks in the vicinity of the culvert could be implemented with the culvert replacement.

While it is never popular for a City to return grant funds, it appears that the City should do such in this case to avoid the SRTS funds expiring without expenditures or worse, being affected by imminent culvert replacement. The SRTS funding for the Main St. and Bobolink sections would proceed as planned

**Fiscal Impact:** Approximate \$6500 from the Storm Water Management Fund to provide temporary repairs to the culvert. Sufficient funds exist in the fund.

#### **Recommendation/**

**Committee Discussion Summary:** The Acting City Engineer recommends proceeding with engineering in next fiscal year budget to replace the culvert and suspend ongoing engineering for the SRTS for this section. Additionally, it is recommended to notify IDOT of situation and reach mutual decision how to handle awarded SRTS grant funds.

Date Prepared: 01/31/2020

**Action Requested:** Committee approval to proceed with engineering in next fiscal budget and suspend engineering for the SRTS grant for this section and notify IDOT.

**Additional Documentation:** attached pictures



Date Prepared: 01/31/2020