



## **CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

### **Public Works Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date:** 02-01-2021

**Prepared By:** Dennis Carr – City Engineer

**Agenda Item:** Overview of Engineering – Employee and Equipment Considerations

**Explanation:** The Engineering Department consist of the City Engineer and Engineering Technician.

We are responsible for the administration of Capitol Projects, the use of our Motor Fuel Tax, the design of projects around the city, and coordination with other government agencies and consultants. The Engineering Technician also assists with snow removal. This department is staffed sufficiently.

**Construction Projects slated for the 21/22 FY Capitol Budget include the following:**

- Reconstruction of 1/3 of Hilldale Avenue
- Water main installation on Crestview.
- Water main installation on Cummings.
- A Chip and Seal Maintenance Project.
- Reconstruction of the North Street Box Culvert.
- Construction of the Centennial Rec Trail.
- Crack Sealing on S. Main and Cruger.
- Phase 2B Sanitary Trunk Line

Staff will look to budget for construction engineering for the larger projects with full time resident engineers which will be supported by city staff.

**Design/Study Projects slated for the 21/22 FY Capitol Budget include the following:**

- Design of the second Hilldale Avenue Project
- Freedom Parkway Phase 2 Design
- Water Quality Study with Nitrification Action Plan
- Leak Detection Study

**Potential Studies for the 21/22 FY not included in the CIP include the following:**

- A Citywide stormwater assessment.
- A Citywide Workspace Study

**Potential Projects for the 21/22 FY not included in the CIP include the following:**

- Construction of the East 1000 ft of Freedom Parkway.
- Streamwood Court/Kern Road Box Culvert Extension and Redirection

**IN-HOUSE DESIGN WORK**

The Engineering Department is looking to continuously update the City's GIS layers in coordination with the distribution and collections staff. Staff will continue to do the design work for the MFT Maintenance Project. Staff will begin to assist the building department with inspections. Staff will do construction inspection on minor projects and assist consultants with the larger capital projects. Staff will continue performing the yearly School Street Dam Inspection. Staff is looking to begin doing design work for minor watermain replacement and looping projects for high leak/break areas.

**Equipment Considerations for the FY 21/22 Budget include the following:**

- **Trimble GIS Unit** – Engineering Staff has a secondhand GIS unit that was acquired off of Morton a handful of years ago. The unit was rarely used by previous staff and is nearing its end of useful life. A new unit would be utilized by the Engineering Department to update the GIS layers, do minor in-house surveying, and do any future asset inventorying.

**Training considerations include the following:**

- Bridge Inspection Certification – Each Bridge inspection is costing the city around 2,000 dollars. Over half of our bridges need inspected on a 24 Month Cycle while the others need inspected every 48 months. COVID has shut down in-person learning but staff is reaching out to FHWA and IDOT for potential openings in the future.
- Pavement Maintenance
- General Construction Inspection

**Fiscal Impact:** TBD

**Recommendation/**

**Committee Discussion Summary:** Staff is seeking feedback for the potential projects and studies listed above.

Staff feels the equipment listed above needs updated to allow us to do more work ourselves and update our GIS mapping more efficiently.

Staff feels the training listed above will make the staff more knowledgeable and more capable in day-to-day operations.

**Action Requested:** Direction for submitting a budget with the items addressed in this memo.