



DATE: June 22, 2021

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Pipeline Disposition Agreement with Pacific Gas & Electric Company for the Transfer of Ownership to the City of a Portion of a Decommissioned Gas Line on West Winton Avenue Along the Fire Station 6 and Fire Training Center Project

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts a resolution (Attachment II) authorizing the City Manager to execute a Pipeline Disposition Agreement (PDA) with the Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) Company for the transfer of ownership to the City of a portion of the decommissioned PG&E gas transmission line that fronts the Fire Station 6 (FS6) and Fire Training Center Project (FTC) on West Winton Avenue. This will allow removal of sections of the gas transmission line to facilitate new storm drain lines that would otherwise be in conflict.

SUMMARY

The FS6 and FTC Project is currently under construction. The project is on West Winton Avenue where there is a recently decommissioned PG&E gas transmission line that runs along the roadway from Hesperian Blvd to the railroad tracks (900 feet west of Mack Street) (Attachment III). Construction of the project includes new storm drain lines that cross and conflict with the gas transmission line. After construction changes were made to avoid the conflict, staff learned that the gas transmission line was decommissioned by PG&E. Taking ownership of the gas line from PG&E and removing sections of the gas transmission line in conflict with the storm drain lines is more economical than constructing a change to the storm drain system. A PDA between PG&E and the City is required for the transfer of ownership of the gas transmission line.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The design for the FS6/FTC project included a new storm drain system to divert storm water from the site to the existing storm drain line on West Winton Avenue. The new storm drain system includes two mainlines that cross over PG&E's 22" gas transmission line. During design, the gas transmission line was active. When construction started, extra precautionary measures were taken when working near this line, including exploratory digging to locate

the line in advance of any work directly over or near the line as required by PG&E. This provided the exact location and depth of the gas transmission and also located the conflict with the new storm drain lines. To avoid the gas transmission line, the construction drawings required storm drain system redesign that included a lift station, which is a series of pumps to lift the storm water over the gas transmission line. Several months into the project construction, the contractor was informed that the gas transmission line was decommissioned by PG&E.

City staff contacted PG&E to discuss options. The option to have PG&E remove the decommissioned line would require a lengthy design, estimating, and construction process by PG&E. A quicker alternative is to transfer the ownership of 800 feet of the gas line that fronts the project to the City and remove two smaller sections of the gas line that conflict with the new storm drain lines without the need for a costly lift station. To limit the liability of pipe ownership, staff worked with PG&E at two locations of the gas transmission line to determine that the material of the pipe is steel with wrapping and that there is no presence of gas and concrete slurry used by PG&E in the pipe to abandon the pipe. A PDA between PG&E and the City is required for the transfer of ownership of the gas transmission line.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Taking ownership of this gas transmission line and removing portions of this line in conflict with the new storm drain lines helps facilitate the construction of the project and will be less expensive compared to the alternative lift station. A lift station will also require expense for ongoing operation and maintenance.

Completion of this project will add classrooms, spaces for training and use by others that may result in positive economic benefits for businesses around the area. Additionally, the local economy and local workforce will be positively impacted during construction of the facilities.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost to transfer ownership includes a payment to PG&E's Standard Land (Utility) fees, which is estimated to be \$2,000. This amount will come from the FS6/FTC project fund.

STRATEGIC INTIATIVES

This agenda item supports the Strategic Priority of Improve Infrastructure. Specifically, this item relates to the implementation of the following project:

Project 12: Construct the Fire Station and Fire Training Center

SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES

This project incorporates sustainability features as they relate to water, energy, and the environment. Additionally, the proposed buildings will be designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver, or better.

PUBLIC CONTACT

There is no public contact required for this agreement.

SCHEDULE

Currently, construction of the overall project is anticipated to be completed in the Fall of 2022.

NEXT STEPS

If Council approves the resolution, staff will route the agreement to be executed by the City Manager. After the agreement is executed, the contractor can proceed with removal of sections of the gas transmission line.

Prepared by: Dave Hung, Senior Civil Engineer
Kathy Garcia, Deputy Director of Public Works

Recommended by: Alex Ameri, Director of Public Works

Approved by:



Kelly McAdoo, City Manager