



CITY OF WHEATLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

July 26, 2016

SUBJECT: Unused Road Right of Way on Wheatland Road near High School; Safe Routes to School Wheatland Road Project Federal Project No. SRTS-5478(007)

PREPARED BY: Dane Schilling, City Engineer

Recommendation

Provide direction to Staff regarding the unused road right-of-way on Wheatland Road.

Background/Discussion

On April 12, 2016, the City Council adopted a resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with S.T. Rhoades Construction, Inc. for two federally funded Safe Routes to School Projects. One of the projects involves the construction of a drainage ditch, asphalt sidewalk and drainage improvements along the S-curve on Wheatland Road near the westerly end of the Wheatland High School football field ("Triangle") (see attached aerial photo).

Three issues have arisen regarding the improvements to this area:

1. City staff and citizens have commented that the new drainage ditch along the curve is too deep and too close to Wheatland Road.
2. The triangular area beyond the new sidewalk has historically been to be an attractive nuisance to off-road activities.
3. The triangular area has historically been used as an unofficial parking area for high school events, predominantly high school football games, Pop Warner football games and graduation ceremonies.

City Staff (all departments except Planning) have reviewed the circumstances in-light of these concerns and provided input to the City Manager resulting in the following recommendations:

1. Install additional storm drain pipe along the roadway to eliminate the newly constructed ditch.
2. Install a barrier along the roadway curve to prevent off-road use and parking in the triangle area. The barrier would consist of wood posts and a cable plus bollards at each end of the curve in the new asphalt path.

Any changes must be decided quickly if construction of the project is to continue and be substantially completed before school resumes. Any changes under this Safe Routes to School project would require the City Manager to negotiate and execute a contract change order with S.T. Rhodes construction.

Alternatives

1. Direct Staff to implement some or all of the recommended changes.
2. Direct Staff to continue constructing the project as originally approved.
3. Provide alternative direction to Staff.

Fiscal Impact

The Project contingency consisting of federal funding would be used to the extent possible to address changes to the project. Changes that exceed the available contingency would require supplemental funding from City sources.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Aerial photo of Wheatland Road “Triangle”

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