



# STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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September 06, 2023

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Emily Sinkhorn, Director of Environmental Services

**PREPARER:** Brigitte Price, Administrative Specialist

**DATE:** August 29, 2023

**TITLE:** **Approve the Project Plans and Award a Construction Contract for the Carlson Park Improvements Project to Hooven & Co., Inc., in the Amount of \$1,457,035; Authorize the City Engineer to Increase the Contract Amount by up to \$291,407, (20 Percent, for a Total Amount Not to Exceed \$1,748,442) to Allow for Any Unforeseen Contingencies; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Applicable Documents.**

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## RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council:

- 1) Approve the project plans and award a construction contract for the Carlson Park Project to Hooven & Co., Inc., in the amount of \$1,457,035;
- 2) Authorize the City Engineer to increase the contract amount by up to \$291,407 (20 percent, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,748,442) to allow for any unforeseen contingencies; and
- 3) Authorize the City Manager to execute all applicable documents.

## INTRODUCTION:

The Carlson Park Improvement Project has been a Council and community priority for the Valley West neighborhood for over five years and is included in the City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Planned Carlson Park improvements are funded through three funding sources from the state and include a new playground and picnic amenities, a special event area, pickleball courts, a public restroom, a parking lot, and river access improvements for hiking and non-motorized boat access.

## BACKGROUND:

Since the City acquired the Carlson Park property along the Mad River from Caltrans in 2017, it has been a community priority to develop active and passive recreation opportunities to connect the Valley West neighborhood to the Mad River and provide further options for active living for all ages. Environmental Services staff engaged the Valley West community in developing priorities for Carlson Park starting in 2018. These engagements informed draft design concepts which helped to secure two grant funding sources last year. In April, Senator McGuire announced additional funding through a state budget allocation which will ensure the project can meet community goals and have exciting features that draw in both residents and visitors.

Carlson Park is the only property within the City of Arcata to border the Mad River. Already it has served as a gathering area for many recent community events, including a tianguis flea market, health fair and bicycle rodeo in partnership with CUNA and other community organizations. Further investment in Carlson Park will create an even more welcoming community space.

**DISCUSSION:**

The project was put out to bid on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and sealed bids were received until 11:30 a.m. on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Three (3) sealed bids were received by the deadline:

Sr. No.	Contractor Name	Bid
1	Mercer-Fraser Company	\$1,993,086.00
2	G R Sundberg, Inc.	\$1,480,409.00
<b>3</b>	<b>Hooven &amp; Co., Inc.</b>	<b>\$1,457,035.00</b>

*Please see Attachment A, an itemized bid tabulation sheet, for a summary of bids received.*

It is recommended the Council award a contract to the lowest bidder, Hooven & Co., Inc. If a contract is presently awarded, work will commence on or after October 2, 2023. Construction duration is anticipated to be around 75 working days, which will likely require a winter suspension and completion of the construction in summer 2024. The City hopes to work with the selected contractor to complete construction of one project component this fall.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA):**

An Initial Study Negative Declaration was completed for the Carlson Park Improvement Project in September 2019.

**BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Carlson Park Improvement Project is supported through a State Parks Rural Recreation & Tourism Grant, a Wildlife Conservation Board River Access Grant, and a state budget allocation made possible by Senator Mike McGuire.

This project is budgeted as follows: The construction contract for Carlson Park is within budget under these grant sources and within budget in the 2023/24 Fiscal Year budget. This project component is budgeted under the following line item in the 2023/24 budget:

Account Number/Agency Responsible	Amount	Account Name
101-50-81-57613	\$1,457,035	Capital – Special Use Parks

If contingency funds are needed, they will be funded out of the same accounts.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Bid Summary Carlson Park (PDF)
- B. Carlson Park Design (PDF)