COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 8/13/2024

File #: 24-1129

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Public Works

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:
Accept Completed Contract for Americans with Disabilities Act Curb Ramp Improvements Project (Phase 3)

RECOMMENDATION(S):
That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Accept the completed contract, including all change orders approved by the Public Works Department, between GR Sundberg, Inc., and Humboldt County for construction of the Americans with Disabilities Act Curb Ramp Improvements Project (Phase 3); and
2. Approve the final claim for payment, to be submitted by the Public Works Department to the Auditor-Controller, in the amount of $298.92, which will bring the total amount paid to 100% of the contract.

STRATEGIC PLAN:
This action supports the following areas of your Board's Strategic Plan.

Area of Focus: Core Services/Other
Strategic Plan Category: 9999 - Core Services/Other

DISCUSSION:
On Sept. 7, 2016, the United States Department of Justice filed a consent decree requiring the County of Humboldt to comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requiring that all county facilities meet current accessibility standards. In response to this consent decree, the County of Humboldt Department of Public Works (Public Works) employed the services of Mark Thomas and Company through its on-call agreement for design engineering services to prepare plans, specifications, and estimate for the construction of Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant curb ramps.

Due to the large number of non-compliant curb ramps throughout the county, the project was divided into phases. The first phase of this project addressed a portion of the non-compliant curb ramps located in the unincorporated areas surrounding the City of Eureka, which include Cutten, Myrtletown, Rosewood, and Pine Hill. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors accepted the completed Phase 1 project on Jan. 5, 2021.

The second phase of the ADA Curb Ramp Improvements Project addressed curb ramps that Public Works and the public identified and prioritized through public meetings and correspondence. The Phase 2 contract focused on the signalized intersections located on Central Avenue in McKinleyville and in the unincorporated areas surrounding the City of Eureka. Nearby intersections were also included with the goal of providing accessible routes to schools and services. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors accepted the completed Phase 2 project on March 5, 2024.

On May 2, 2023, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors authorized the Clerk of the Board to advertise the ADA Curb Ramp Improvements Project (Phase 3) for bids. On June 6, 2023, the County of Humboldt received one bid for the project. The project agreement was awarded to GR Sundberg, Inc., the lowest responsive bidder, on July 11, 2023. The award amount was $1,436,631, and contract change orders executed during the project increased the authorized amount by $143,017.39. The majority of this increase is associated with extending asphalt pavement limits beyond the estimated quantities as required to meet accessibility requirements for street crossings.

Public Works recommends that the Board of Supervisors accept the completed contract, including all change orders approved by Public Works for this project, and approve the final claim for payment.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:
Humboldt County Road Fund (1200); 2020 Finance Plan

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures (Fund, Budget Unit)	**FY24-25**
Budgeted Expenses (1200321-8940)	$298.92
Additional Appropriation Requested	$0
Total Expenditures	$298.92

Funding Sources (Fund, Budget Unit)	**FY24-25**
General Fund	$0
Road Fund (1200)	$298.92
Total Funding Sources	$298.92

Narrative Explanation of Financial Impact:
Total construction costs for this project are $1,579,648.39. Progress payments totaling $1,579,349.47 have been paid, and the final claim for payment in the amount of $298.92 is outstanding.
This project is funded by $822,557.72 from the Humboldt County Road Fund and $757,090.67 from the 2020 Finance Plan.
Expenditure appropriations relating to completion of the Americans with Disabilities Act Curb Ramp Improvements Project (Phase 3) are included in the approved fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 Road Fund Budget (1200321-8940). The amount shown in the Financial Impact Table above includes only the pending final claim in the amount of $298.92.

The FY 2022-23 Annual Road Report, completed by the State of California, reflected an estimated negative fund balance of $8.4 million in the county's Road Fund. Even after allocating nearly $6.8 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the Road Fund in order to reduce the negative fund balance, the current estimated fund balance remains negative by approximately $7.7 million.

This negative balance is partially due to the timing of Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursements to the county, which can take years for the county to receive repayment. The current total of outstanding repayments is approximately $7.8 million. The department utilizes other state and local funding, such as Regional Surface Transportation Program funds, for the Humboldt County Road Fund match for reimbursable projects. Despite those additional funding sources, Road Fund projects are underfunded and will very likely have a negative impact on the General Fund if additional revenue sources are not secured.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impact:
Accepting the Americans with Disabilities Act Curb Ramp Improvements Project (Phase 3) will not impact current staffing levels.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

United States Department of Justice

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:
The Board of Supervisors may choose not to accept the Americans with Disabilities Act Curb Ramp Improvements Project (Phase 3). However, this alternative is not recommended because the project has been completed, and the requested Board actions are needed to accept the contract.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Executed Project Agreement and Change Orders
2. Acceptance Statement

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:
Meeting of: 11/13/18; 02/5/19; 4/9/19; 1/5/21; 4/26/22; 6/14/22; 5/2/23; 07/11/2023; 3/5/24
File No.: 18-1488; 19-109; 19-429; 20-1558; 22-439; 22-711; 23-509; 23-880; 24-176