

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: October 15, 2024

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Aaron King, Assistant City Manager
 Jeff Fansler, Director of Transportation
 Darren Redfield, Purchasing Director

Council Action Requested:

- Items Related to Liberty and Main Streets Two-Way Conversion (East and South Ward):
- A. Resolution Awarding Construction Contract for Main and Liberty Two-Way Conversion
 - B. Project Budget Ordinance Amendment to Appropriate Funds for Project Expenditures

Strategic Focus Area: Quality Transportation
Strategic Objective: Improve Integrated Road Network
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: Yes



Summary of Information:

The City of Winston-Salem commissioned the “Downtown Street Study” in 2015, to examine the viability, traffic impacts, and the costs of implementing improvements to the downtown street network to reflect the planned changes associated with the Business 40 reconstruction. The purpose of this project is to follow through on the results and recommendations from the Downtown Street Study to implement two-way traffic with appropriate traffic signal modifications and pavement markings. The first such project, First and Second Street Two-Way Conversion was awarded in September 2020 and completed in 2022.

City/County Purchasing advertised a formal bid for the Main and Liberty Two-Way Conversion and bids were to be received on August 29, 2024. However, three bids were not received as required by North Carolina General Statute 143-132(a). Following proper legal re-advertisement, bids were then opened on September 18, 2024, with one bid received from Sharpe Brothers, a division of Vecellio & Grogan, Inc. (Greensboro, NC) in the estimated total amount of \$5,562,067.92.

Sharpe Brothers agreed to the M/WBE subcontracting goals established for this project of 6% with minority-owned businesses and 4% with women-owned businesses.

Sharpe Brothers has aggressively pursued this project and staff was pleased with their performance as contractor on the successful First and Second Street Two-Way Conversion. As allowed by N.C.G.S. 143-129(b), the City entered into negotiations with Sharpe Brothers in an attempt to negotiate a price more in line with the project budget.

Committee Action:

Committee	FC-10/15/2024	Action	Approval
For	Unanimous	Against	

Remarks:

Staff identified certain unit price line items for reduction and Sharpe Brothers returned an initial cost savings of \$144,619.80. Staff will continue to look for additional cost savings during the project. Staff recommends that a construction contract be awarded to Sharpe Brothers, a division of Vecellio & Grogan, Inc., the low bidder meeting specifications, for the Main and Liberty Streets Two-Way Conversion project in the negotiated estimated amount of \$5,417,448.12. The engineer's estimate was \$4,493,562.00. The 2018 G.O. Bond project budget was \$3,600,000. A Project Budget Ordinance follows the resolution allocating additional funding to cover the cost of this project.

M/WBE comment: This project was advertised on the City and State websites and with several electronic plan rooms. Bid invitations were sent directly to 28 contractors, including three M/WBEs. Notifications were sent to all local M/WBE and regional HUB businesses on a bi-weekly basis. See Exhibit A for a complete list of businesses notified about the bidding opportunity and the low bidder's workplace demographics.