



Agenda Item # _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Fahey and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Neil C. Miller, Director of Public Works
Dana Greenwood, City Engineer
Michael A. Guerrero, Senior Civil Engineer

DATE: August 16, 2005

SUBJECT: Status Report on Strand Improvement Project – Phase I Construction and Approval of Signage

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

- A) Receive and file the construction update regarding the Strand Improvement Project
- B) Approval of Strand signage

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

Funds are included in the Capital Improvement Plan for this project.

DISCUSSION:

Construction Update

The Contractor began construction on Phase I of the project on March 28, 2005. Phase I includes the area of the Strand from 36th Street to 45th Street. Phase I of the project is on schedule to be completed by the end of August/2005.

Construction on the project began with the demolition of the westerly portion of the Strand including removal of the existing light poles and fixtures, demolition of the westerly concrete curb, and demolition of the westerly third of the Strand walkway surface. The Contractor then installed the storm drain pipe and constructed the new westerly concrete curb, including the bench alcove portion of the curb, and installed the electrical conduit and wire for the new Strand lights. During this time the Contractor chose to leave the easterly two-thirds of the existing Strand walkway surface open and available for pedestrian access, especially in consideration of its heavy usage due to the proximity to the El Porto parking lot.

Once the westerly curb and substructures had been completed the Contractor removed the remaining portion of the existing Strand walkway surface, installed an irrigation sleeve to each property, graded the subgrade for the new walkway, installed the reinforcing steel, and poured concrete for the new walkway surface and bench alcoves. The Contractor is currently awaiting

delivery of the new light poles and fixtures which should be installed by the end of the month in order to complete the work for Phase I. In addition, City staff is finalizing the details for the new trash receptacles so that they can be ordered and installed shortly.

The Contractor started construction on Phase II of the project on 08/08/05. Phase II of the project includes the area of the Strand from 28th Street to 36th Street. Phase II is scheduled to be completed by the end of December/2005. Since Phase II of the project includes a portion of the usual route for the Hometown Fair 10k Race, City staff has been coordinating with the Race Director to utilize Manhattan Avenue from Rosecrans Avenue to either 23rd Street or Marine Avenue as an alternative route to the Strand for this portion of the race. At this point the race may proceed south along the Strand and follow the usual route to the finish at the pier.

The estimated schedule for the remaining Phases of the project includes the following:

- Phase III: 28th Street to Marine Avenue Nov, 2005 to Feb, 2006
- Phase IV: Marine Avenue to Manhattan Beach Blvd Jan, 2006 to July, 2006
- Phase V: Manhattan Beach Blvd to 1st Street June, 2006 to Nov, 2006

Strand Signage

At the April 19, 2005 City Council Meeting the City Council provided direction to staff regarding the new proposed Strand signage that will be incorporated into the project. The City Council approved the following sign content:

Welcome to Manhattan Beach

Enjoy our beach and protect our environment

- No alcoholic beverages on the beach
L.A. Co. Ord. 17.12.320; M.B.M.C. 4.48.030
- No dogs allowed on beach
On or off leash
M.B.M.C. 5.01.040
- Pick up after your pet
M.B.M.C. 5.01.310
- Pedestrian traffic only
No bicycle riding on the Strand
M.B.M.C. 3.01.100Z
- No smoking on the beach
M.B.M.C. 12.08.320

Thank you for your cooperation

In addition the City Council provided the following direction to staff regarding the Strand signs:

- Have background color of the sign match the trash receptacle
- Put black circles with slashes instead of red circles with slashes for beach rules

Although the City Council acknowledged that the sign content was “warmed up”, the Council did not reach a consensus on the “friendlier” portion of the sign content and directed staff to bring the item back for final approval.

A popular adage that has been discussed is to include language similar to beach signs in Hermosa Beach which state “Leave only footprints”. This is a common motto of various environmental and ecological groups and has other variations including “Take only memories, Leave only footprints” and “Take only pictures, Leave only footprints”. A more simple slogan can be incorporated into the previously approved sign content such as “Thank you for your cooperation and enjoy the view”. In addition the City Council may recommend to staff other alternative sign content that would be appropriate for the Strand signs. An additional consideration is that staff received a public comment that the previously approved sign content “On or off leash” was superfluous and could be omitted from the new Strand signs. Once Council approves the Strand signage content the new signs may be purchased and installed in the Phase I area of the project which is nearing completion.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the City Council receive and file the construction update for the Strand Improvement Project and approve Strand signage.

Attachment: Project Photos

Strand Improvement Project



Demolition of westerly portion of existing Strand



Installation of storm drain pipe



Installation of electrical conduit



Construction of westerly concrete curb

Strand Improvement Project



Installation of steel reinforcement for concrete walkway



Construction of concrete walkway



Completed concrete walkway with bench alcove



Completed concrete walkway