



MEMORANDUM

TO: Peter Joseph, Town Manager
FROM: Adam Bliss, Town Engineer
DATE: May 28, 2020
SUBJECT: Bid Award Recommendation for West Street Culvert Replacement Project

This memorandum provides the bid results and recommendation to award the West Street Culvert Replacement project to the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder. The culvert is located between Woodlawn Cemetery and South Street. The replacement is identified as one of the highest priority stream restoration projects in the Concord Gully Brook Watershed Management Plan. The culvert drains the downtown Village area which is primarily impervious pavement and roof landcover. The intense flows are so powerful and erosive that stream channel degradation has created five-foot head cuts into the native glaciomarine clay. This project will help mitigate the flows and restore the stream.

The Town sent a Request for Proposal (RFP) to earthwork contractors around the state of the Maine. The invitation was also posted on the Town's website and advertised in Construction RFP databases. Eight contractors attended a pre-bid meeting demonstrating interest in the project. Two bids were received which are tabulated below. J Pratt Construction was the lowest qualified bidder. This company recently worked on two Town projects which are the 2016 South Street sidewalk extension and the 2017 Elm Street-Snow Road sidewalk connector loop. I feel very comfortable recommending the bid award to this contractor.

Bid Tabulations	
J Pratt Construction	\$275,609
Crooker Construction	\$299,483

The culvert replacement involves deep excavation, utility coordination, and in-stream work requiring specialty equipment. The safest and least-cost means to perform the work is to shut down this section of West Street for one to two weeks. Fortunately, the two houses closest to South Street will be able to access Route One via South, Bow, and Depot Streets. However, one of these houses is not currently lived in. The other residents will be able to access Route One via West Street. Traffic management and contractor safety are of primary importance on this project. Electronic message boards and traffic control signage will be placed at the appropriate areas.

This project will be paid for through three funding mechanisms: a Maine DEP Stream Crossing grant for \$95,000; a U.S. EPA Section 319 Clean Water Act grant for \$91,000; and a local match in the amount of \$75,000. These funds total \$261,000 which will be the contracted amount with J Pratt Construction. The difference between the bid and contracted amounts was realized through savings identified in value engineering the footing design.

This project will improve water quality and wildlife habitat and help restore the degraded stream channels.