

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 12, 2025

PREPARED BY: Neal Ennis, Project Manager

SUBJECT: AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO AMERICAN CIVIL
CONSTRUCTORS WEST COAST, LLC, PURSUANT TO THE FY 2024-25
BRIDGE PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, PROJECT NO.
MFA00007 – CEQA DETERMINATION

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Make a finding that the project is categorically exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, pursuant to Class 1, Section 15301 (Existing Facilities), and authorize the City Engineer to submit a Notice of Exemption.
2. Award contract to American Civil Constructors West Coast, LLC, of Benicia, CA, in the amount of \$737,000 for the Bridge Preventative Maintenance Program (BPMP), Project No. MFA00007.
3. Authorize the Director of Finance to set aside a 10% contingency in the amount of \$73,700.
4. Authorize the City Attorney to make necessary non-monetary changes to the agreement.
5. Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and any written requests for change orders up to the contingency amount, amendments, and any other documents necessary to effectuate this action, in accordance with Palm Desert Municipal Code Section 3.30.170(B).
6. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Notice of Completion (NOC) and the City Clerk to file the NOC upon satisfactory completion of the Project.
7. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate a Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Rancho Mirage.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

At its April 22, 2021, meeting, the City Council awarded Contract No. C41340 to Dokken Engineering for engineering and design of bridge maintenance based on recent bridge inspection reports, and to establish a preventative bridge maintenance plan in the form of a Bridge Preventative Maintenance Plan (BPMP) Report, so the City is proactively managing its bridge structures. The structures planned for repair under this work come from the recommendation of Dokken Engineering and are included in the maintenance plan.

Under this method, the BPMP outlines recommended improvements to be implemented in five-year annual cycles. The FY 2024-25 cycle includes the bridges listed below, along with a summary of the planned scope for reference. The selection of these 2 bridges was determined through a comprehensive assessment that balanced priority infrastructure needs within the allotted Measure A Budget for this purpose.

- Bridge No. 56C-0326 Tierra Del Oro over the Palm Valley Channel
- Bridge No. 56C-0502 Palm Canyon Drive Bridge over the Rancho Mirage Channel

Staff recommend that the City Council find that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA, pursuant to Class 1, Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) under the CEQA Guidelines, as the project involves the repair and maintenance of existing streets, sidewalks, gutters, and similar facilities. A summary of the planned scope of work from Dokken is included as Attachment 6, attached hereto for reference.

Project Descriptions:

Bridge No. 56C-0326 Tierra Del Oro over the Palm Valley Channel – The scope of work includes various concrete repairs to the approach abutment, removal and replacement of joint seals, and the application of water sealant material to the bridge deck. These efforts will improve the planned life cycle, and the integrity of the bridge structure.

Bridge No. 56C-0502 Palm Canyon Drive Bridge over the Rancho Mirage Channel – Caltrans identifies the street as Palm Canyon Drive in their database, but it is actually Highway 111. The scope of work on this structure includes the removal and replacement of joint seals, asphalt concrete removal to expose the bridge deck, and the application of water sealant material to the bridge deck. These efforts will improve the planned life cycle, and the integrity of the bridge structure.

Additionally, the area of asphalt removal has been extended to Parkview Drive to enhance road quality within the City of Palm Desert. As part of these improvements, the wearing course of asphalt on Highway 111 will be replaced and re-stripped, providing cohesive upgrades to the infrastructure within the designated removal limits.

Highway 111 will be temporarily reduced to 1 eastbound and 1 westbound travel lane to accomplish this work. Traffic signal timing modifications have been designed and are scheduled for implementation to ease congestion. In addition, advanced driver notifications will be deployed through changeable message signboards, the Engage Palm Desert platform, social media channels, and local media partners.

Coordination with the City of Rancho Mirage during design, planning, and bidding has been completed, and the City of Rancho Mirage has committed to perform the same efforts within its respective city limits. To accommodate the necessary requirements and lane restrictions outlined above, this project is planned to take place this summer, during the period of lowest seasonal population.

Requests for Bids:

The project was advertised via the City's bid portal, OpenGov Project ID# 2025-IFB-178, and one bid was received electronically on May 20, 2025.

Contractor	Location	Base Bid
American Civil Constructors West Coast, LLC	Benicia, CA	\$737,000

The all-inclusive engineer's estimate was \$767,500, and American Civil Constructors West Coast, LLC, bid in the amount of \$737,000 is within the estimate. Staff reviewed the bid documents, and all the required forms were submitted and recommends approval.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding for this project is included in the approved Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list for Fiscal Year 2024-25 in Measure A Account No. 2134359-4400100. This action will have no impact to the General Fund.

Project - MFA00007 Bridge Preventative Maintenance Program (BPMP)	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 24/25 Expenditures	Remaining Budget
Measure A Funds (2134359-4400100)	\$1,142,141		
Engineering Design (Dokken Engineering)		\$53,065	
Construction: American Civil Constructors		\$737,000	
10% Contingency		\$73,700	
Totals	\$1,142,141	\$863,765	\$278,376

Coordination efforts with the City of Rancho Mirage are ongoing regarding cost sharing. Their portion of Bridge 56C-502 represents approximately \$160,000 in value, which is approximately 50% of the improvement value of the shared asset. While the Rancho Mirage has not yet formally agreed to the cost-sharing terms, discussions are progressing. To avoid unnecessary delays to the overall project schedule, staff recommends moving forward with contractor approvals, while negotiations with the City of Rancho Mirage continue.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Construction Contract
2. Contractor Bid
3. Payment and Performance Bonds
4. CEQA Notice of Exemption
5. Vicinity Map
6. Dokken Report