

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2025

PREPARED BY: Lucero Leyva, Senior Project Manager

SUBJECT: AWARD A CONTRACT TO AMERICAN ASPHALT SOUTH, INC., FOR THE WALK AND ROLL PD PHASE 2 PROJECT (PROJECT NO. CST00002)

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Make a finding that the project is categorically exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines, Class 1 of Section 15301, and authorize the City Engineer to submit a Notice of Exemption.
2. Award a contract to American Asphalt South, Inc., of Riverside, CA, for the Walk and Roll PD Phase 2 Project in the amount of \$2,259,091.50, plus a \$225,000 contingency.
3. Authorize the City Attorney to make any necessary non-monetary changes to the agreement.
4. 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 Section 3.30.170B of the Palm Desert Municipal Code.
5. 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.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

On April 8, 2021, the City Council awarded the Citywide Bikeway and Pedestrian Improvements Study to Michael Baker International, Inc. As part of this study, the consultant evaluated existing pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and identified gaps within the current network through research, data analysis, and community outreach. The goal was to prioritize improvements that enhance safety, connectivity, and accessibility for all users.

On March 23, 2023, City staff presented the study's findings to City Council and received approval to proceed with the Walk and Roll PD Implementation Plan. This plan organizes the project deliverables into three distinct phases, summarized below:

Phase	Description	Status
Phase 1	Shared Lane Markings "Sharrows"	Completed FY 23/24
Phase 2	Bike Lane Improvements - Additional Buffered Class 2 Bike lanes	Design and Bidding Complete; Construction Award Pending
Phase 3	Pedestrian Improvements - Additional Sidewalks and Crosswalks	Design Ongoing, Est. Completion Spring 2026; Est. Construction Start FY 26/27

The design and construction of Phase 2 primarily involve restriping several city roadways to accommodate the addition of new buffered bike lanes. The following streets are included in this phase:

- Portola Avenue
- Country Club Drive
- Cook Street
- Oasis Club Drive
- Tamarisk Row Drive
- Frank Sinatra Drive

Eldorado Drive was originally part of the Walk and Roll Phase 2 Project but was later incorporated into the Eldorado Drive Street Rehabilitation project and has since been completed. Residents can expect the bike lane enhancements on Eldorado Drive to be consistent with the improvements being implemented in this project.

Stakeholder and Public Outreach:

City staff sought stakeholder and public input at multiple stages of the Walk and Roll PD project, including community meetings, City Council ATP Subcommittee discussions, and study sessions with the City Council. Staff also maintains an active “Engage PD” project page, where residents can continue to provide feedback and comments.

As part of the Eldorado Drive project, staff sent letters to residents and met with various homeowners’ associations to discuss the upcoming improvements.

Based on the input received and an in-depth internal review, staff revised the project scope to only implement Class II buffered bike lanes, without a curb or other physical separator between the bike lane and the vehicular travel lane.

Requests for Bids:

The project was advertised for proposals through the City’s bid management portal, OpenGov (Project ID# 2025-IFB-216), and on October 30th, two bids were submitted electronically.

Contractor	Location	Base Bid Amount
American Asphalt South, Inc.	Riverside, CA	\$2,259,091.50
Pave-Tech, Inc.	Carlsbad, CA	\$3,296,072.00

The engineer’s estimate for construction is \$4,897,560. Staff has reviewed the bid documents and determined that the bid submitted by American Asphalt South, Inc., is responsive, responsible, and in compliance with all plans, specifications, and required forms. They have successfully completed projects for the City of Palm Desert previously and staff is confident in their ability to complete this project as designed. Therefore, staff recommends awarding this construction contract to American Asphalt South, Inc.

General Plan:

This project aligns with the Circulation Element of the General Plan Update, which was presented to the City Council at the Study Session held on September 25, 2025.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney’s Office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding for this project is included in the approved FY 2025/26 Financial Plan and Five-Year Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list, utilizing Measure A Funds (2134633-5000103). This action will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund.

The table below outlines project budget and expenses:

Authorized Budgets	Date Authorized	Measure A Fund 213
Original Budget FY 20/21	7/1/2020	250,000
Additional Budget FY 21/22	7/1/2021	250,000
Additional Budget FY 22/23	7/1/2022	1,000,000
Additional Budget FY 23/24	7/1/2023	884,579
Additional Budget FY 24/25	7/1/2024	2,500,000
Additional Budget FY 25/26	7/1/2025	2,500,000
Total Authorized Budget to Date		7,384,579

Authorized Expenditures	Date Authorized	Measure A Fund 213
Michael Baker Int'l (C41270)	4/8/2021	461,325
Anser Advisory (C44810)	2/16/2023	255
Chrip Company (C44630)	2/20/2024	202,661
Xpress Graphics	2/24/2024	1,445
TKE Engineering (C48490)	1/1/2025	396,770
Misc. Expenses	12/1/2024	42
Staff Time FY 24/25	6/30/2025	15,694
Total Authorized Expenditures to Date		1,078,192
Construction: American Asphalt South, Inc.*	11/13/2025	2,259,091.50
Contingency 10%*		225,000
Remaining Project Budget Available		3,822,295.50

***This request**

Note: Remaining balance will be reallocated to Phase III of this project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. American Asphalt, Inc., Bid
2. Construction Contract
3. Payment and Performance Bonds
4. CEQA Notice of Exemption
5. Vicinity Map