



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Edward L. Roberge, PE, City Engineer

DATE: August 31, 2015

SUBJECT: Report by the City Engineer updating City Council on the I-93 drainage pipe failure and its impact to the municipal storm drainage system and authorizing the repurposing of \$125,000 of previously appropriated project funds for the reconstruction of the municipal storm drainage system.

Recommendation

Accept this report and approve the accompanying resolution.

Background

On August 19, 2015, a municipal storm drainage pipe running underneath Interstate 93 (I-93) between Exit 13 and Exit 14 failed as a result of heavy storms and caused a significant washout on the northbound lanes of I-93. The interstate was closed and the washout was repaired by permanently filling the existing pipe by NHDOT forces. The segment of the 36"x24" brick storm drain pipe that failed serves a large portion of the drainage system in the Downtown proper area. Immediate replacement for this capacity of stormwater flow will be required.

Discussion

Over the past week, Engineering staff has worked closely with General Services (GS) and the NHDOT on immediate flood controls, short term solutions, and permanent reconstruction of the storm drainage system. Engineering staff coordinated the delivery of a large water pump capable of pumping the stormwater flow to the failed system to other locations for immediate flood control and began assessment of the storm drain system for permanent replacement. GS crews installed 2 separate drainage bypass systems that have been quite effective in controlling flood elevations within the system. Fortunately the weather has been good since the culvert failure so pumping and flood risk has been minimal. Final design of the drainage system replacement was completed by August 24th and presented to contractors for their review. The estimated cost to complete the permanent drainage reconstruction is \$125,000.00.

Where this project is unfunded, staff recommends that City Council authorize the immediate use of a portion of the funds appropriated in the current fiscal year for drainage improvements on Portsmouth Street (FY2016 - CIP83 for \$400,000.00). The total estimated cost for the Storrs Street drainage system reconstruction is \$125,000.00. Permanent reconstruction work began on September 3rd and is expected to be completed in one week.

Funds used for this improvement will ultimately need to be replaced in order to complete the Portsmouth Street culvert replacement project in the current work plan.

Engineering staff has been in close contact with the Storrs Street shopping center property manager and has coordinated the immediate, interim, and permanent work required at the site. The property manager appreciated the collective efforts by the City and is supportive of whatever is needed to complete the improvements.

Therefore, Engineering Services recommends that the City Council accept this report and approve the attached resolution.

elr/E
attachment