



Subj: PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL BOND PROJECT: Bethany Elementary School Domestic Water Pipe Replacement

Background

The domestic water distribution system at Bethany Elementary School dates to the original 1971 construction. The system is in urgent need of replacement due to its rapidly declining condition, structural integrity concerns caused by water intrusion, and consumer confidence issues related to the deteriorating aesthetic water quality. Although not specifically included in the 2014 Bond Program, staff recommends replacing this system utilizing program reserve funds as it is fully within the spirit, intent, and highest priorities of the bond. The project will replace all existing piping and fixtures, and repairs an associated void space under the building slab.

Discussion

1. At the start of the 2017-2018 school year, the main water service line to the building failed. This leak created a void space under a portion of the kitchen/cafeteria which could compromise the structural integrity of the building if not repaired in the near future.
2. The aging galvanized steel piping system is causing extensive discoloration and requires frequent flushing. During this school year, Maintenance has responded to 35 service calls to address system leaks and clogged fixtures.
3. During the district wide water quality testing, 12 fixtures in the school tested above the action level for lead. Two of these points, both classroom water fountains, remain out of service as the source of the lead has not been pinpointed despite extensive exploration and follow-on testing. Both classrooms are being provided with bottled water for student consumption.
4. While the water remains safe for consumption, a combination of the aesthetic issues and nonresolution of the lead has created a consumer confidence issue for the school community. While only a mild concern at this time, it has great potential for greater concern and broader public interest.
5. Alternative construction techniques will allow for this project to be executed rapidly and affordably during the summer of 2018.
6. The project cost estimate, including contingency is \$1.2M. The scope includes complete replacement of both hot and cold water service to include mains, runouts, fixtures, valves, flush valves, water heaters, expansion tanks, and recirculation pumps. It also repairs the kitchen/cafeteria slab and eliminates fixtures in the abandoned locker rooms.

Recommendation

Recommend the Bond Accountability Committee:

1. Endorse staff's recommendation to add the Bethany Domestic Water Pipe Replacement project to the bond program utilizing program reserve funds for execution.
2. Forward to the School Board for approval at their next meeting, February 6, 2018.

District Goal: WE empower all students to achieve post-high school success.

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