

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Tom Harmer, Town Manager
From: Isaac Brownman, Public Works Director
Report date: September 21, 2021
Meeting date: September 27, 2021
Subject: Utilities Undergrounding Project Update

Recommended Action

None, informational only.

Undergrounding Project – Funding

The Town Commission will be formally adopting the FY22 Budget, including Utilities Undergrounding Project components at the September 27, 2021 Special Meeting at 5:01pm. For the Utilities Undergrounding Projects, these elements are consistent with the current remaining budgets based on Referendum and Bond balances.

Undergrounding Project – Design-Build RFP

Wilco-FPL

A summary of work accomplished to date including the current high-level accomplishment and status for the Utilities Undergrounding Project follow.

Phase 1

The remaining work in Phase 1 is being accomplished with an adjusted schedule for contractor and FPL completion dates.

Feeders from North extent of Phase 1 to Sloop Lane are energized. The next series of Feeder Switch Orders for remaining GMD feeders are in process of approval and scheduling. This will allow commencing pole removals along Gulf of Mexico Drive.

Wilco has energized all primary voltage distribution loops at all Country Club Shores Sections. They have completed energizing related transformers and conducted all residential conversions.

All FPL installations of Automatic Meter Monitoring equipment are complete.

FPL pole removals commenced in Country Club Shores on June 16th. To date, all poles have been removed from Country Club Shores IV and V, Cutter Lane, Yawl Lane, and Outrigger Lane. Remaining neighborhood poles are ready for FPL to remove.

All street light poles, arms, and fixtures in Phase 1, except for those that were in close proximity to active power lines, have been installed and are wired and

connected to the newly installed Town power distribution centers. Gulf of Mexico Drive poles have been installed in the North and South intersections of Longboat Club Road and the South intersection lights are activated. Remaining 12 poles are being prepped for installation.

Phase 2

Wilco continues progress in the Village and Bayou Hammock section of Phase 2 providing installation of FPL equipment and installing primary and secondary wiring. Installation of Town fiber/street light and Comcast conduits is occurring in the Gulf of Mexico Drive right of way.

Conduits, splice boxes, transformer pads, and secondary laterals to residence meter locations is occurring in the southern Sleepy Lagoon neighborhood sections. In the coming weeks crews will be installing Town and highway lighting poles and continuing work towards the southern Phase 2 neighborhood streets.

Phase 3

All FPL feeder conduit and Primary conductor conduits have been installed in the Gulf of Mexico Drive right of way. Crews are now working South to North installing the switch boxes, splice boxes and transformer pads for Phase 3 and have completed work up to the 3700 block of Gulf of Mexico Drive.

Town street light, fiber and Comcast conduits are being installed by a separate crew throughout the Phase 3 areas. All Town fiber conduits have been installed in the Harborside sections of Phase 3.

Frontier work continues in progress in this phase.

Neighborhood section of Buttonwood Harbor is completed with conduits, splice boxes and transformer pads set in place. Longboat Key Estates (Royal Road) is under construction. Work in the two mobile home parks is to follow.

Phase 4

Phase 4 FPL final design is complete and being reviewed for submittal to FDOT for Right of Way Utility Permit.

Phase 4 fiber & streetlight design is in receipt and submitted to FDOT for permit approvals.

Comcast & Frontier Phase 4 work is planned to coincide with FPL work.

Frontier

Frontier has completed work within Phase 1. Meanwhile, Frontier is actively working to complete their undergrounding and/or removal of non-active aerial facilities, and conversions of aerial fiber drops within Phase 2 and Phase 3; and reviewing designs for activation of work assignments in Phase 4.

Comcast

For Phase 1, Comcast has completed all installations and their final cut-over to pave the way for their aerial facilities to be removed. The project team is working

with Comcast to confirm all of their aerial facilities in Phase 1 have been removed.

Town staff is continuing to coordinate with Comcast in the field to verify design plan installations are complete ahead of our current work within Phase 2 and Phase 3. The project team is also working with Comcast to have them finalize their permit drawings & permit for phase 4.

Street Lighting and Smart City concepts

The Town has engaged KCI Technologies, Inc., to provide guidance, recommendations and assist with the ongoing planning of smart city/cellular/fiber project elements and continued conversations with providers. Meetings continue with service providers and carriers with design/build team efforts and future plans for fiber, use of street light infrastructure, installations, deployment and marketing. The Town has had very productive meetings with both ATT and Verizon regarding plans to enhance cell coverage on the Island. At the most recent meeting with Verizon, they advised the Town that they will be seeking approval to install up to 9 small cell poles and antennas on the island to address current coverage issues. Their request will require Special Exception approval by the Planning and Zoning Board. Based on their current equipment specifications, staff also believe that the Town Commission will need to consider a minor amendment to address the current dimensions listed in the code for ancillary pole mounted equipment. Staff is preparing that proposed amendment for Town Commission consideration.

Budget and Other Items of Interest

Phase 1

To date, the Town has not utilized construction contingency funds as the project team nears completion of Phase 1. The project has remained under the original budget as in previous updates.

The street lighting portion of the budget remains positive for GMD due to the reduction of original streetlights based on the FDOT Lighting Justification Study. Although the Town has been able to negotiate to bring the overall project under original budgets, the neighborhood street lighting budget remains as originally projected. This includes transferring some intersection street lighting into the GMD budget.

Phase 2

Similar to the above, the Town has not needed to utilize construction contingency funds for Phase 2. As with Phase 1, the Town will continue to mitigate any potential issues to preserve project contingency funds. Fiber & streetlight cost are currently under review and within the budget amount.

Phase 3 (includes the Southern portion of the original Phase 5)

The Town is progressing with Work Assignment with Wilco for the FPL undergrounding portion and it remains under the original budget. Fiber & streetlight designs are within budgeted amount.

Phase 4 - Final Phase (includes the Northern portion of original Phase 5)

The Town is in receipt of Phase 4 final design from FPL, has procured the Binding Cost Estimate (BCE) with FPL, and shipping of materials is in progress. This is the final FPL portion of the project and will help determine what the final cost for the FPL portion will be. Fiber & streetlight costs are currently under review and within budgeted amount.

Multipurpose Pathway Lighting Update

Town staff is working with Wilco for Multi-Purpose Pathway Lighting. Once options have been further developed, they will be brought to the Commission. The Town is working with Wilco to target 36" to 42" bollard style lighting that will be focused onto the pathway. Cost per unit length will be developed and then a review of recommended locations.

Next Steps

- Continued work in all Phases will be accomplished with an adjusted schedule for Phase 1 and 2 contractor completion dates.
- Final coordination of switch orders for commencement of feeder pole removals along GMD in Phase 1.
- Continue undergrounding work in Phase 2.
- Continue undergrounding work in Phase 3.
- Obtain FDOT permits for all Town fiber and street light work on GMD for remaining Phase 4.
- Commence Phase 4 FPL work.
- Further develop and refine GMD multi-purpose pathway lighting options for presentation to Town Commission.
- Continue working with our advisor, KCI, to assist with ongoing planning of smart city/cellular/fiber project elements and to help advance continued conversations with providers.

Master Schedule Update

At the May 2021 Regular Workshop Meeting, the project team presented a master schedule update. The project team continues to meet with FPL on a routine basis and continues requesting FPL's pole removals to be completed as soon as possible. There have been some other adjustments to estimated time frames for components within the individual phases based on updated information including additional time necessary for complexities surrounding Phase 2, but work productivity is ahead of schedule in Phases 3 and 4. Overall the master schedule continues to reflect project completion by December 2022.

The project team will continue to provide quarterly updates to the Town Commission on the overall progress.

Staff Recommendation

None, informational only.

Attachments

PowerPoint Presentation (Available from Town Clerk's Office)

End of Agenda Item