

RESOLUTION NO. 4889

A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND EXEMPTING THE SS-03-04, COX CREEK INTERCEPTOR REPAIR PROJECT FROM THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS.

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2003, City of Albany staff discovered a wastewater spill in Cox Creek located immediately east of Waverly Drive, Albany, Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the September 3, 2003, letter from City of Albany staff to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), attached as Exhibit 1, establishes the dates the wastewater spill occurred in Cox Creek; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2003, City of Albany staff notified City Council of the discovery of the wastewater spill in Cox Creek and the need for an emergency repair; and

WHEREAS, rehabilitation work on the existing sewer line needs to be completed before wet weather sets in to prevent a future wastewater spill in Cox Creek; and

WHEREAS, in order to respond most promptly to this emergency an exemption from the formal competitive bidding process is required; and

WHEREAS, Albany Municipal Code 2.64.060 and Oregon Revised Statutes 279.015(4)(a) allow for exemptions from the competitive bidding process if an emergency exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council, acting as the local Contract Review Board finds that an emergency exists on the Cox Creek Sanitary Sewer Interceptor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to prevent future wastewater spills from occurring in Cox Creek, Council authorizes the exemption of competitive bidding for SS-03-04, Cox Creek Interceptor Repair and authorizes staff to seek a minimum of three written quotes for the construction of this project and enter into a contract with the contractor with the lowest responsible quote.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage by the Council and approval by the Mayor.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE THIS 24TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2003.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Recorder



September 3, 2003

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Bill Perry
 Department of Environmental Quality
 Western Region-Eugene Office
 1102 Lincoln Street, #210
 Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Bill:

NPDES PERMIT #102024 – WASTEWATER SPILL FROM THE COX CREEK SEWER LINE

This letter is the final report for a wastewater collection system sewage spill that occurred on August 22, August 25, and August 26, 2003, from the City's Cox Creek sewer line. The spill was discovered by City personnel at 10:00 a.m. on August 26, 2003, and it was estimated that the spill occurred intermittently over the above three working days during a scheduled maintenance project to clean the wastewater treatment plant influent wet well. The approximate cumulative duration of the spill was 4.5 hours, determined by the amount of time the wet well level exceeded the elevation of the spill site on the Cox Creek sewer line. The estimated flow rate of the sewage spill was 60 gallons per minute, and the total cumulative volume of sewage spilled over the three working days was approximately 15,300 gallons.

The level of the wastewater influent trunk lines had been raised to enable contractors hired by the City to route sewage around the influent wet well to allow cleaning, and the level was monitored by City personnel. The raised level of the influent sewer lines caused back pressure up the trunk lines, and the 21-inch Cox Creek sewer leaked sewage out of joints in the line. This sewer line closely follows Cox Creek and the leaking sewer joints are partially in the creek bed, so the spill caused an immediate discharge into Cox Creek. From the spill point located just under the Waverly Drive Bridge, Cox Creek flows through an undeveloped park area a distance of 1,200 feet to the Willamette River.

Immediately upon discovery of the sewage spill, the wet well cleaning project was shut down and the wet well was lowered, stopping the spill to Cox Creek. Notification signs were posted at points of potential public access, and sampling of Cox Creek was performed upstream and downstream of the spill site. Sample results are attached, including follow up samples taken on August 28, 2003. Preliminary information was gathered and notification was made to DEQ on the day of the spill.

In order to prevent recurrence of any sewer spills from the Cox Creek sewer line, the City has determined the following course of action:

- The contracted wet well cleaning project has been shut down. The project will not continue unless provisions are made to keep the influent wet well lower than the elevation of the Cox Creek sewer line.
- A TV inspection performed by the City following the spill showed significant deterioration of pipe joints in the Cox Creek sewer line (installed in 1957), and we intend to rehabilitate up to 1,400 feet of the 21-inch sewer line. Rehabilitation of the sewer will require planning and consultation with qualified contractors to determine the best method, and City engineering staff have made rehabilitation of the Cox Creek sewer line

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a top priority. We intend to develop a rehabilitation plan for the sewer line by September 30, 2003.

- Measures will be taken to expedite the project, and we intend to complete rehabilitation work on the Cox Creek sewer line by November 15, 2003.

If you have any questions regarding this report or need further information, feel free to contact me at (541) 917-7631.

Sincerely,



Herb Hoffer
Environmental Services Supervisor

Enclosure (1)

c: Mike Wolski, Operations Manager
Diane Taniguchi-Dennis, P.E., Public Works Director
Jon Neely, Wastewater Collection Supervisor
Ben Phelps, Chief Operator
Ted Mikowski, P.E., Civil Engineer II
Mark Shepard, P.E., City Engineer