



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 15, 2015

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department Projects, Follow-up to June 8, 2015 Memorandum**

My attached June 8, 2015 memorandum provided background information in response to an inquiry from the District 1 Board of Supervisors Office regarding ongoing Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) projects that required the installation of a detour for The Loop along the Rillito River. The following information elaborates on the details of the efforts undertaken by RWRD to maintain infrastructure service to other modes of transportation while undertaking needed rehabilitation of certain of our major interceptor sewers. The District 1 office also requested photographs of the paving work undertaken to implement the detours, and these are attached as well.

Supplemental Information to June 8 Memorandum

RWRD has been actively involved in three interrelated Capital Improvement Projects: South Rillito Interceptor (SRI), North Rillito Interceptor Project (NRI), and the Rillito Interceptor Relief Sewer. RWRD has provided updates on the progress of the work to offices of both County and City elected officials whose districts/wards overlay these large projects.

Three update meetings have been held since the original kickoff meeting on October 3, 2013. The update meetings were held on April 3, 2014, January 7, 2015, and May 27, 2015. Information provided at these meetings included traffic impacts, project-related disruptions, and other community items of interest. City of Tucson officials attended the kickoff meeting, but opted to speak directly with the respective contractors associated with the three projects since that time. In addition, a field meeting was held with Supervisor Miller and a meeting at the RWRD Conveyance Division was held with District 4 Supervisor Ray Carroll.

The following notes reflect items discussed and the individuals present at the May 27, 2015 meeting:

1. Board of Supervisors staff in attendance: Ms. Jennifer Wong (District 4) and Ms. Jeannie Davis (District 1).
2. Update presentation on the "NRI Relief Sewer Project" delivered by Alan Showalter, Project Manager, Achen-Gardner Construction.

3. Additional Meeting Attendees: Noel Ortiz (RWRD); Laura Hagen Fairbanks (RWRD); Lilian von Rago (RWRD); Richard Wascher (RWRD); Alan Showalter (Achen-Gardner); Neil Mensak (B & F Contracting); Dan Foley (B & F); Kathy Jirschele (Kaneen Advertising & Public Relations).

4. Achen-Gardner is currently working on the north side of the Rillito Wash.

5. As of this update, two 24-inch diameter steel pipes have been installed under the wash. This is a large excavation utilizing track hoes. The excavation is to a depth of 25 feet. There was an in-channel detour shift on May 11 with costs to construct and remove asphalt.

6. Achen-Gardner is following Regional Flood Control District standards, including bank protection on the south and north banks of the Rillito. Achen-Gardner is also working with Natural Resources Parks and Recreation (NRPR) to replace the large trees that were removed with native shrubs. Achen-Gardner performed a survey of the area and has an Intergovernmental Agreement with NRPR. Replanting will not occur on the sewer easement.

7. Contractor's Target Date for the North Loop to be open is June 19. Contractor's Target Date for the South Loop to be open is before July 4.

8. Ms. Davis requested the cost of the multiuse path detour. Mr. Noel Ortiz, RWRD Project Manager, indicated the exact dollar amount was not available at that time, but he expected those costs to be forthcoming by way of a submittal from Achen-Gardner. The original contract included a multiuse-path detour that would maintain current traffic on the path.

9. Dan Foley of B & F indicated B & F had completed their portion of the NRI rehabilitation work within this area of the project site; their work should not impact the multiuse pathway.

As noted above, the SRI, NRI and Rillito Relief Interceptor projects are interrelated. Respectively, they were budgeted within our Capital Improvement Program for \$14.3 million, \$19 million, and \$5.7 million. The SRI was completed ahead of schedule and under budget at \$11.5 million. The contractor performing the SRI work was KE&G. The NRI is currently under construction with B & F and, at this time, is on schedule and at or slightly above budget. The NRI is expected to be completed by June 2017. The Relief Sewer is currently in the final stages of construction. Achen-Gardner appears slightly ahead of their September 2015 projected completion date and quite a bit below budget, as some of the Relief Sewer scope items were moved into both the NRI and SRI projects.

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The NRI and SRI projects primarily involved rehabilitation work on two existing interceptors. The Relief Sewer project consisted of the installation of a new sewer line across the Rillito Wash and will offload some of the NRI flow to the underutilized SRI. The Relief Sewer project involves tying into both the NRI and SRI lines, as well as temporary removal of sections of the river bank protection and Loop multiuse paths on both sides of the wash.

A detour for the Loop multiuse path on the south side of the Rillito Wash was installed in January 2015. The improvements made to connect the multiuse path through the adjacent neighborhood have been well received by neighborhood representatives. The original south side multiuse path is expected to be reopened by July 4.

The Loop multiuse path on the north side of the Rillito Wash was impacted in May 2015; thus the temporary detour was installed at the beginning of May, and it remains in use at this time. During the May 27 update meeting, the contractor indicated the north multiuse path could be reopened by June 19; however, that target date is highly unlikely, as the contractor is still installing the Relief Sewer piping on the north side of the Rillito Wash. While pipe installation may be completed by June 19, there are still significant cleanup, revegetation/replanting activities, and Loop replacement work to be conducted. That work will be followed by demobilization of the contractor's yard/equipment in the area. It is likely the north Loop will not be reopened for several more weeks and which, by contract, could take until September 2015.

Achen-Gardner has not yet provided the costs and breakdown associated with the installation of the temporary multiuse path on the north side. Staff has estimated these costs to be approximately \$25,000. The final cost will be provided once received from the contractor and reviewed by the project manager.

Summary

The detour work undertaken to maintain functional use of The Loop is a legitimate obligation of RWRD, and the expense incurred for such purpose is justified. As with any road work that disrupts safe and serviceable travel by citizens using such facilities, detours are commonly provided, and they are necessary capital improvement expenses attributable to the overall project.

CHH/mjk

Attachments

c: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Jackson Jenkins, Director, Regional Wastewater Reclamation



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 8, 2015

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department Project Inquiry – North Rillito Interceptor Project**

The Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) and Achen Gardner Construction held a meeting on May 27, 2015 to provide an update for two Board of Supervisors offices on the North Rillito Interceptor Rehabilitation and the North Rillito Interceptor Relief capital improvement projects. Respective aides from the District 1 and District 4 offices attended this briefing. Ms. Jeannie Davis of the District 1 Office expressed concern about the costs associated with efforts to keep the bike path open and asked Mr. Noel Ortiz, RWRD Project Manager, to forward costs and background information for these efforts the District 1 office.

As a responsible utility performing construction activity on property that contains other public infrastructure improvements, RWRD is required to maintain access, ingress/egress, and functional use of the existing improvements to the extent possible and practical. This standard is applied to all property impacted by Pima County construction activities.

Given this section of The Loop multiuse path is heavily utilized by the community, an alternate route has been developed to address service disruption during the planned four-to six-month month construction effort. After consulting with the Regional Flood Control District, which has responsibility and ownership of the Rillito River right of way and the associated improvements, RWRD staff determined that installation of a temporary multiuse path was reasonable and appropriate. This route was also deemed the safest, most functional and cost effective option for maintaining the use of this facility.

RWRD estimates the cost of this effort to be approximately \$25,000. RWRD is awaiting the contractor's cost details for this work to confirm the estimated amount. The North Rillito Interceptor Rehabilitation and the North Rillito Interceptor Relief capital improvement projects have a total project cost of approximately \$22.4 million.

Please advise the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department if there are any other questions pertaining to this project.

CHH/mjk

c: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Jackson Jenkins, Director, Regional Wastewater Reclamation

