Project Review Comments

PROJECT: 21-1133 R, Clear Creek Reconnection and Public Safety Project

Sponsor: Wahkiakum Co. Public Works Program: SALMON ST PROJ Status: Application Resubmitted

MEETING: Initial Review

Shared: 4/2/2021

Review Status: Needs more information

Considerations:

Topics	Comments
Review Panel Comments - Initial	
Questions (response required)	
	Based on the discussion during the virtual site tour it appeared that funds for the overall construction may not match the current design. The design was funded back in 2014 and 92 percent of the funds are unspent. We would just like to get a clear update on the overall construction costs, design budget and proposed construction timing of April 2022.
	Reply: I have attached a new funding/cost explanation to the application that lays out this information (Word document labeled Project Review Comments). We are applying for sufficient funds to fully cover the bridge costs. The County does not quite have sufficient grant funding (from CRAB) to fully cover the separate road improvements, according to the most recent engineer cost estimates. The County is addressing this through design tweaks to reduce costs and may also utilize County reserve funding if necessary to complete the project.
	What will happen to the current design funds?
	Reply: The existing grant funding from RCO is for construction, not design. It will be fully utilized for bridge construction, in conjunction with this grant. RCO has approved this use.
General Comments (response not required)	
	This design for this project was conditioned by the Review Panel and Approved via email in 2017.

PROJECT: 21-1133 R, Clear Creek Reconnection and Public Safety Project

Sponsor: Wahkiakum Co. Public Works Program: SALMON ST PROJ Status: Application Resubmitted

MEETING: LE Review

Shared: 4/16/2021

Topics	Comments
Lead Entity Comments	
Questions For Applicant	
	Please provide the most recent cost estimate for the project in the PRISM application. Clarify the funding sources for each project element, specifying which grants are funding the public safety portion of the project.
	Reply: The most recent cost estimate (PDF) from the engineer is attached (they were attached prior to review). There is also an Excel file with the grant project budget for the bridge, in the standard RCO format. At the request of the Review Panel, I am also attaching a new document that more clearly lays out the overall project costs, funding sources, and how the various funding sources will be utilized. In brief, the public safety improvements will be paid for with a grant for this purpose from the Washington County Roads Administration Board (CRAB).
	How will the bridge work take place to address the barrier issue if funding isn't available for the public safety road components?
	Reply: No. The road work and bridge must be constructed at the same time or the road will not line up with the bridge.
	Mature conifers are close to the culvert area. Will any of these be removed as part of the project? Explain where and why.
	Reply: The mature conifers are on private land away from the culvert. They will not be removed as part of removing the culvert and building the bridge, and removal will not be paid for with Salmon Recovery funds. The County does intend to remove some conifers (less than 10) as part of removing overburden and eliminating the existing slow-moving landslide. That work will be conducted either by the County itself or by Partners for Fish and Wildlife.
	Design for this project was funded in 2014, and it was conditioned for the SRFB Review Panel to review final design materials before construction. How does the proposed scope and design materials fit in with 2014 SRFB-funded project, and where are we in the design review process?
	Reply: The 2014 funding was for construction, not design. The funding has not been spent because the project has not been constructed, due to challenges within the County and then annually rising costs. We have been in close contact with RCO about this, and RCO has granted continued use of those funds with specific deadlines. The 2014 funding will be utilized for construction.
	Attach the most recent iteration of the design to the 2021 PRISM application.

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	Reply: The most recent design is attached. It is possible that the design will be modified slightly to reduce costs for the road portion of the project, though the bridge will not change in any meaningful way.
General Comments	
	At some point in time, Chinook and chum salmon were observed in the project area (see WDFW maps in Benefits to Fish supporting information). It is possible that they could return to Clear Creek if the barrier is addressed.
	Reply: This is our hope. Part of the reason so much attention is being paid to stream substrate in Clear Creek in this project is the possibility that chum and/or Chinook may spawn in Reach 1 even if they do not wish to proceed further up the creek.