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Date:

December 16, 2022

To:

Commissioner's Court

From:

Jon Kleinheksel

Re:

2023 Proposed Road Projects Schedule

Public Works is pleased to present the proposed project list for 2023. Our strategy will continue to focus on a dual approach. First, the department will endeavor to upgrade the most feasible and practical dirt and rock roads remaining in our inventory. This means selecting roads with favorable conditions (ROW/landowner cooperation) and a reasonable volume of traffic. Second, staff has identified several roads that are excellent candidates for reconstruction based on our criteria which reviews road condition, average daily traffic, proximity to major and principal arterials, etc.

Since rebounding from the Covid era this year, Public Works was able to, once again deploy the full breadth of our resources to address major projects such as the Pebble Beach subdivision reconstruction completed last summer. Unfortunately, Road & Bridge still suffers from a number of vacancies that have a tangible impact on our planning and operations. However, the department has attempted to mitigate this deficiency through some creative recruiting and a new pilot program in which individuals are hired as underfill truck drivers and Public Works conducts a DOT approved training curriculum to prepare those individuals for their state CDL test. With this program, Public Works has already "graduated" seven employees.

PW staff has compiled a comprehensive record of anticipated reconstruction projects for 2023 as well as all remaining Capital Improvement Projects to apprise Commissioners' Court of planned activities. The attached documents group the projects into two major categories:

- Capital Improvement Program Rock/Dirt to Asphalt
- Road Reconstruction (Full Depth Reclamation)

At this stage in the CIP program, all of the remaining roads fall into the "challenging" category due to either mutual boundary or ROW acquisition considerations. Despite this, PW staff will explore novel means to acquire the necessary easements for road improvements. Of the 45.12 miles remaining,

➤ 17.99 miles are active projects and scheduled for upgrade in calendar year 2023 (see attached tentative schedule).

- ➤ 22.60 miles are deferred due to possible annexation or pending development.
- ➤ 4.53 miles are currently being monitored to determine the financial investment. These roads are seldom used and are either:
 - Field access or dead ends with no residence to actively access property
 - o Currently field roads or potentially anticipating future development

Both road project types (CIP & Reconstruction) will receive a 2 course chip seal pavement surface. This decision was based on accumulated data that confirms a substantial cost and time savings compared to HMAC pavement operations. In addition, Public Works will continue to research industry surface treatments designed to prolong the life cycle of asphalt roads and enhance the visual aesthetics of the recently paved road with a uniform blacktop finish.

Should you require additional information, please contact me and I will respond accordingly.