
File #: 2025-4261

Agenda Date: 6/4/2025

Agenda Item No: 3.

FROM: Robert Thompson, General Manager
Originator: Mike Dorman, Director of Engineering

SUBJECT:

SANTA ANA TRUNK SEWER REHABILITATION, PROJECT NO. 1-23

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend to the Board of Directors to:

Approve an agreement with the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) for the installation and operation of a temporary, above grade, bypass pipe in the UPRR right-of-way during the construction of Santa Ana Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation, Project No. 1-23, in the amount of \$373,770, in a form approved by General Counsel.

BACKGROUND

The Santa Ana Trunk carries sewage from the southern portion of the cities of Santa Ana and Costa Mesa to Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) Plant No. 1. This sewer was originally constructed in the early 1950s and consists of unlined 42-inch and 48-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipes. Over the past 60 years, several projects have replaced or rehabilitated small portions of the sewer and rehabilitated most of the manholes.

The project area for the Santa Ana Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation is located on Alton Avenue heading west from Bristol Street then diagonally through easements in a light industrial/commercial area toward Plant No. 1. There is an UPRR right-of-way that runs parallel to Alton Avenue.

RELEVANT STANDARDS

- Protect OC San assets
- Maintain collaborative and cooperative relationships with regulators, stakeholders, and neighboring communities
- Maintain a culture of improving efficiency to reduce the cost to provide the current services level or standard

PROBLEM

To facilitate the required rehabilitation work, sewer flows along Alton Avenue must be bypassed. In addition, several flows originating north of the UPRR tracks need to be intercepted and rerouted

around the bypassed section. The only viable route for this bypass piping is through the UPRR right-of-way. UPRR requires an agreement to allow OC San use of their right-of-way for the bypass.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

Approve an agreement with the UPRR to allow OC San to install the needed temporary, above grade bypass pipe in the UPRR right-of-way. This agreement, including the terms, location, and the costs, has been negotiated by staff to meet the needs of the Santa Ana Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation Project and safety requirements of the UPRR.

TIMING CONCERNS

UPRR requires the agreement to be fully executed, including payment, by September 26, 2025. The construction project is scheduled to begin in January 2026. Installing the bypass line in the UPRR right-of-way is required before the contractor can begin the repair work on the trunk line.

RAMIFICATIONS OF NOT TAKING ACTION

Without this agreement, bypassing of sewer flows around the UPRR right-of-way would not be possible and therefore the rehabilitation of the Santa Ana Trunk Sewer would be considerably more expensive and cause more community impacts.

PRIOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTIONS

April 2022 - Approved a Professional Design Services Agreement with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. to provide engineering services for Santa Ana Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation, Project No. 1-23, for an amount not to exceed \$3,880,000; and approved a contingency of \$388,000 (10%).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

CEQA

The project is exempt from CEQA under Class 1, 2, and 3 categorical exemptions set forth in California Code of Regulations Sections 15301, 15302, and 15303. A Notice of Exemption will be filed with the OC Clerk-Recorder after OC San Board of Directors approval of the Construction Contract.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This request complies with the authority levels of OC San's Purchasing Ordinance. This item has been budgeted (Budget FY 2024-25 and 2025-26, Section 8, Page 15, Santa Ana Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation, Project No. 1-23) and the budget is sufficient for the recommended action.

ATTACHMENT

The following attachment(s) may be viewed on-line at the OC San website (www.ocsan.gov) with the complete agenda package:

- Union Pacific Railroad Company Agreement

VP:lb