



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 23, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Terrance Davis, Director of Public Works
Subject: Contract: Buhler Commercial for FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project (Specification No. 23-11616-C & 23-11614-C)

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution:

1. Approving plans and specifications for the FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project;
2. Accepting the bid of Buhler Commercial as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and
3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or other change orders until project completion, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications in an amount not to exceed \$1,973,708.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding is available from the State Transportation Tax Fund, Measure B Local Streets and Roads Fund, UC Settlement Fund, Measure M Street and Watershed Improvement Fund, Measure T1 Infrastructure and Facilities Fund, and the Clean Storm Water Fund.

State Transportation Tax (Fund 127)	\$250,000
Measure B (Fund 130)	\$511,951
UC Settlement Fund (Fund 147)	\$175,000
Measure M (Fund 506)	\$713,759
Measure T1 (Fund 511)	\$93,299
Clean Storm Water (Fund 616)	\$230,000
Total construction cost	\$1,974,009

No other funding is required, and no other projects will be delayed due to this expenditure.

Low bid by Contractor	\$1,794,553
10% Contingency	\$179,455
Total construction cost	\$1,974,009

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project (the Project), Specification Nos. 23-11616-C & 23-11614-C were initially released for bids on October 6, 2023, and bids were opened on November 7, 2023. At the bid opening, only one bid was received from Redgwick Construction Company of Oakland, California, with a bid of \$2,010,117 (see Attachment 2, Abstract of Bids), approximately 40% higher than the \$1.42 million engineer's estimate for this project. The City Manager rejected the lone bid as authorized by the City Council on February 27, 2024 (Resolution No. 71,255-N.S.).

The Project was re-issued with a revised scope and released for bids on April 11, 2024, and bids were opened on May 16, 2024. Five non-local bids were received, from a low of \$1,794,553 to a high of \$4,256,439.80 (see Attachment 2, Abstract of Bids). The engineer's estimate for the project was \$1.85 million.

Buhler Commercial of San Francisco, California, was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, with a bid of \$1,794,553, and their references were found to be satisfactory. This project includes a 10% contingency, which brings the total contract amount up to the requested \$1,974,009. Staff recommends that Buhler Commercial be awarded a contract for this project.

The Project includes several required infrastructure repairs and improvements, including repairs of retaining walls and bridge abutments.

BACKGROUND

The Project includes several infrastructure repairs and improvements throughout various locations in the City:

- Two existing storm drain access points at 2nd St are currently not up to the City's current standards and will be upgraded to standard storm drain maintenance holes to facilitate ease of access for maintenance workers.
- The City built the retaining walls on Hilgard Ave. and La Loma Ave. in the early 20th century without a robust tie-back system. With the extensive root damage from adjacent trees, the walls have begun to rotate and lean, with severely offset cracks. The project replaces the retaining walls with retaining walls anchored with cast-in-drilled-hole pier foundations.
- The north and south approaches to the La Loma Bridge are experiencing settlement at the bridge abutments. This work may require additional coordination with EBMUD, as they plan to replace their water main at the south end of the La Loma Bridge. The settled bridge approach sidewalks, soil-retaining structures, and associated pavement will be reinstalled for pedestrian safety.
- The traffic circle at Piedmont Ave and Channing Way is a roundabout with one of Berkeley's most extended crosswalk lengths. With funding from the UC Long

Range Development Plan Settlement, this project will integrate pedestrian safety measures like curbed medians, island passageways, and upgraded signage and striping.

- A staircase will be installed at the lower end of an Upper Columbia Path on an undeveloped 10' wide Public right-of-way, adding to our extensive Berkeley path network. Our partners, the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, will work to complete the upper end of the path, building it with their standard wooden railroad tie path. The path will connect existing paths at Columbia Walk and Lower Columbia Path, further facilitating ease of evacuation in the hills in case of emergency.
- The makeshift traffic circle at Woolsey St. and Eton Ave. is not functioning efficiently as a traffic calming device and receives significant cut-through traffic to/from College Ave. and Claremont Ave. The request for a redesigned traffic circle originated as a community traffic calming request in 2012. Improvements will include a larger traffic circle and median channelizers on all three legs of the intersection, designed via analyses of vehicle turn movements
- Five existing concrete paths have been identified for significant repairs to ensure safety and accessibility throughout the City's extensive pathway network. The paths slated for repair are Mendocino Path, Tunbridge Lane Path, Indian Rock Path, Visalia Steps, and Oxford School Way Path.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Enhancements at the Piedmont Ave. and Channing Way traffic circle, including pedestrian-friendly features like curbed medians and island passageways and improvements to new and existing paths, promote walkability and environmental sustainability. These improvements encourage reduced vehicle use and emissions and support a healthier, more eco-friendly urban community.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Project is part of the City's ongoing effort to repair existing infrastructure and implement new pedestrian safety improvements. The work requires contracted services, as the City does not possess the in-house labor or equipment resources necessary to complete the project.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative action was considered for this project. The City could choose not to proceed with this project. However, the existing infrastructure would continue to deteriorate, and other pedestrian improvements would remain unbuilt, affecting use of the community sidewalks and others neighborhood amenities.

Contract: Buhler Commercial
for FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 23, 2024

CONTACT PERSON

Ronald A Nevels, Manager of Engineering, Dept. of Public Works, (510) 981-6439
Srinivas Muktevi, Supervising Civil Engineer, Dept. of Public Works, (510) 981-6402

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: Abstract of Bids

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: BUHLER COMMERCIAL FOR FY 2023 RETAINING WALL AND STORM
DRAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project is part of the City's ongoing effort to repair existing infrastructure and implement new pedestrian safety improvements; and

WHEREAS, the City has neither the labor nor the equipment necessary to undertake this FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, an invitation for bids was duly advertised, and Buhler Commercial was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, funding is available in the FY 2024 and FY 2025 budget in State Transportation Tax (Fund 127), Measure B (Fund 130), UC Settlement Fund (Fund 147), Capital Improvement Fund Measure M (Fund 506), Measure T1 Fund (Fund 511), and Clean Storm Water Fund (Fund 616).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Plans and Specifications for Specification No. 23-11616-C & 23-11614-C FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project are approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or change orders until completion of the project in accordance with the approved plans and specifications with Buhler Commercial for the FY 2023 Retaining Wall and Storm Drain Improvement Project, in an amount not to exceed \$1,974,009, which includes a 10% contingency for unforeseen circumstances. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments are to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.



City of Berkeley
Abstract of Bid Worksheet

Finance Department
General Services Division

Bid Date: 5.16.2024

FOR: Ret. Wall/Storm Drain

23-11616-C and 24-11614-C

required w/ bid

	Bidders	Package A	Package B	Package A + B	Bid Bond	Addendum (2)	Experience - Fin. Qual.	Taxpayer ID	Opp.States	Nuclear Free	EBO	Sanctuary City
1	Buhler Commercial	\$ 1,233,687.00	\$ 555,413.00	\$ 1,794,280.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2	Ground Control Inc	\$ 1,443,593.00	\$ 612,756.00	\$ 2,061,351.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3	Kerex	\$ 1,464,805.00	\$ 1,083,200.00	\$ 2,548,005.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4	R&S Construction Management Inc	\$ 3,333,888.50	\$ 970,341.30	\$ 4,304,229.80	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5	Sposeto	\$ 1,645,697.20	\$ 464,732.20	\$ 2,110,429.40								
6	Error in Talubation of Buhler Commercial's Bid	\$ 1,239,140.00	\$ 555,413.00	\$ 1,794,553.00								
7	Error in Talubation of Ground Control Inc's Bid	\$ 1,449,593.00	\$ 613,478.00	\$ 2,063,071.00								
8	Error in Talubation of Kerex Bid	\$ 1,417,305.00	\$ 1,083,200.00	\$ 2,500,505.00								
9	Error in Talubation of R&S Construction Management Inc's Bid	\$ 3,333,888.50	\$ 922,551.30	\$ 4,256,439.80								
10												

Bid Recorder:

Bid Opener:

Project Manager:

R Soorma

[Signature]
John Soorma (510) 861-2000

[Signature]

Date May 21, 2024

Date May 21, 2024

Date 5-21-24