

Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
February 25, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager  
Submitted by: Terrance Davis, Director, Department of Public Works  
Subject: Contract: Ashlar Structural LLC for Strawberry Creek Culvert Maintenance Project – Phase 1 (Specification No. 25-11689-C)

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution:

1. Approving plans and specifications for the Strawberry Creek Culvert Maintenance Project – Phase 1; and
2. Accepting the bid of Ashlar Structural LLC (Ashlar Structural) as the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder; and
3. Authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or other change orders until completion of the project, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications in an amount not to exceed \$4,544,232.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding from the State Transportation Tax (Fund 127), Measure B Local Street & Roads (Fund 130), Measure BB Sales Tax (Fund 134) and the City’s Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 501) is available in FY 2025 and additional Measure BB Sales Tax (Fund 134) funding will be subject to appropriation as part of the FY2026 Adopted Mid-Biennial update.

<u>Low bid by Contractor</u> .....	\$4,131,120
<u>Contingency of 10%</u> .....	\$413,112
<b>Total construction cost</b>	<b>\$4,544,232</b>

**FY 2025 Funding:**

State Transportation Tax (Fund 127) .....	\$2,050,000
Measure B Local Streets & Roads (Fund 130) .....	\$99,000
Measure BB Sales Tax (Fund 134) .....	\$162,173
<u>Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 501) .....</u>	<u>\$1,053,769</u>

**Total FY 2025 funding**.....\$3,364,946

FY 2026 Funding:

Measure BB Sales Tax (Fund 134) .....\$1,179,286

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The project rehabilitates approximately 1,600 linear feet of City-owned Strawberry Creek culverts ranging in size from eight-foot by five-foot arched cross section to 90-inch diameter circular culverts. This project was developed following a comprehensive structural assessment of Strawberry Creek culverts. The scope is focused on extending the service life of culvert sections exhibiting the highest degree of deterioration. Protecting these culverts is critical to safeguarding the Strawberry Creek watershed and protecting overlying infrastructure from potential damage or failure.

The project was released for bids on November 4, 2024, and bids were opened on December 19, 2024 (see Attachment 3, Abstract of Bids). Six non-local bids were received, from a low of \$4,131,120 to a high of \$7,390,200. The engineer’s estimate for the project was \$3,620,000.

Ashlar Structural of Nanuet, New York, was the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder with a bid of \$4,131,120, and their references were satisfactory. This project includes a 10% contingency, which brings the total contract amount up to the requested \$4,544,232. Staff recommends that a contract for this project be awarded to Ashlar Structural.

The Strawberry Creek Culvert Maintenance Project – Phase 1 is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to provide state-of-the-art, well-maintained infrastructure, amenities, and facilities.

BACKGROUND

In September 2022, the City began efforts to perform detailed mapping and structural assessment of City-owned and maintained sections of Strawberry Creek Culvert. Initial work included topographic survey and visual assessment of the entire stretch of culvert between the UC Berkeley campus and the westernmost limit of the creek culvert near the intersection of Curtis Street and Addison Street. Detailed structural assessment including testing of existing concrete and rebar scanning was performed during the summer of 2023. The testing and assessment efforts culminated in the development of a detailed structural assessment report titled “Structural Assessment and Protect Scoping Report.” The report, dated December 2023, is available for review on the City’s website.

Rehabilitation of the entire length of City-owned Strawberry Creek culverts will need to be completed in phases due to funding limitations. This contract awards the first phase. Additional phases would be completed in future fiscal years as funding becomes available. Phase 1 of construction focuses on rehabilitating sections of City-owned Strawberry Creek culverts which the structural analysis identified as having the highest degree of deterioration. This includes culvert sections below Martin Luther King Jr. Way,

Old Berkeley City Hall (Maudelle Shirek Building), McKinley Ave, Grant Street, Roosevelt Avenue, McGee Avenue, and the culvert section running below Allston Way between California Street and the daylighted portion of Strawberry Creek at 1431 Allston Way just west of Sacramento Street. The proposed rehabilitation method consists of targeted structural repairs and lining the culvert with high performance geopolymer mortar.

The contract's one-hundred and twenty working day term includes a one-hundred working day construction period and an additional twenty working days for project closeout.

The City filed a Notice of Exemption declaring this work is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This notification was filed with Alameda County to fulfill the requirement for public notification. No comments, questions, or protests were received. All environmental regulatory permits required for completing the project work in Strawberry Creek have been secured.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The project aims to rehabilitate existing creek culverts, enhancing their long-term resilience to the erosive impacts of more intense storms anticipated due to climate change.

#### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City conducted a public bid process and Ashlar Structural submitted the lowest, responsive, and responsible bid. The work requires contracted services, as the City does not possess the in-house labor or equipment resources necessary to complete this specialized construction work.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative actions were considered for this project. Failure to rehabilitate the aging infrastructure would lead to further degradation and eventual failure, placing public infrastructure and adjacent private property at risk.

#### CONTACT PERSON

Wahid Amiri, Deputy Director, Public Works (510) 981-6396  
Ronald A. Nevels, Manager of Engineering, Public Works (510) 981-6439

#### Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: Location Map
- 3: Abstract of Bids

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

CONTRACT: ASHLAR CONSTRUCTION LLC FOR STRAWBERRY CREEK CULVERT  
MAINTENANCE PROJECT – PHASE 1

WHEREAS, in September 2022, the City began efforts to perform detailed mapping and structural assessment of City-owned and maintained sections of Strawberry Creek Culvert; and

WHEREAS, the assessment efforts are summarized in a report dated December 2023 and titled “Structural Assessment and Protect Scoping Report” (Report) which is available for public review on the City’s website; and

WHEREAS, City staff recommends undertaking rehabilitation efforts to extend the service life of deteriorated culvert sections; and

WHEREAS, due to funding limitations, rehabilitation of all deteriorated sections of City-owned Strawberry Creek culvert would need to be completed in phases, with the first phase of construction focusing on culvert sections found to have the highest degree of deterioration based on the Report; and

WHEREAS, Phase 1 of the project would include rehabilitating approximately 1,600 linear feet of culvert sections below Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Old Berkeley City Hall, McKinley Avenue, Grant Street, Roosevelt Avenue, McGee Avenue, and a culvert section running below Allston Way between California Street and the daylighted portion of Strawberry Creek just west of Sacramento Street; and

WHEREAS, the City has neither the labor nor the equipment necessary to undertake work; and

WHEREAS, an invitation for bids for Strawberry Creek Culvert Maintenance Project – Phase 1 was duly advertised, and Ashlar Structural LLC was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and

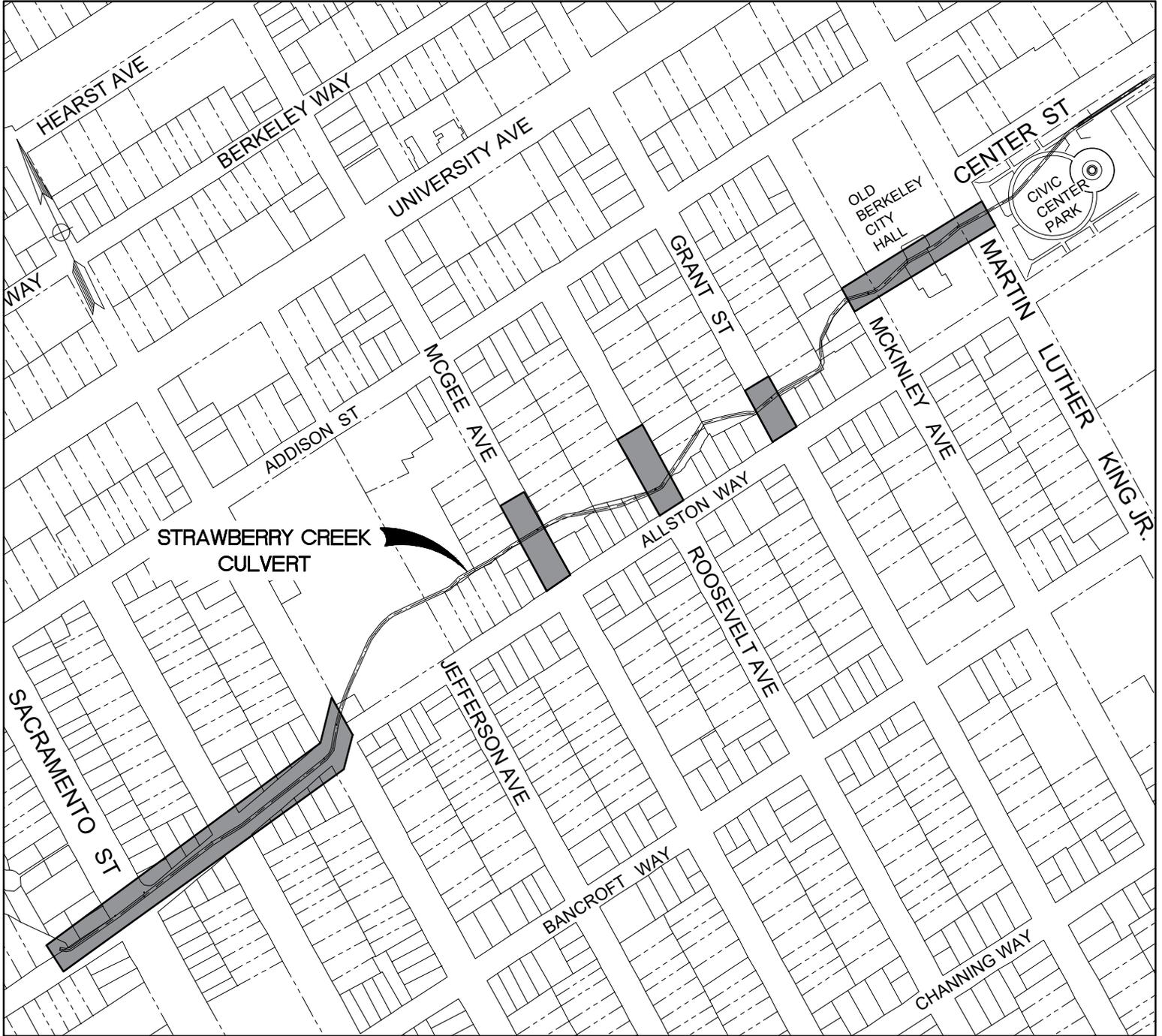
WHEREAS, funding is available in the FY 2025 and FY 2026 budgets in State Transportation Tax (Fund 127), Measure B Local Streets & Roads (Fund 130), Measure BB Sales Tax (Fund 134), and Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 501).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Plans and Specifications for Specification No. 25-11689-C Strawberry Creek Culvert Maintenance Project – Phase 1 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 Ashlar Structural LLC for the Strawberry Creek Culvert Maintenance Project – Phase1, in an amount not to exceed \$4,544,232, 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.

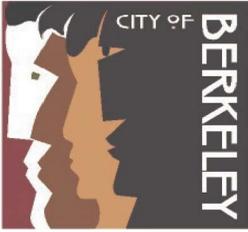
CITY OF BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA  
**STRAWBERRY CREEK CULVERT  
MAINTENANCE PROJECT PHASE 1**  
SPECIFICATION NO. 25-11689-C



LEGEND

 PROJECT SITES

PROJECT LOCATION MAP



City of Berkeley  
Abstract of Bid Worksheet

Finance Department

General Services Division

**FOR: Strawberry Creek Culvert Maintenance Project - Phase 1**

**Spec. # 25-11689**

**Bid Date: 12/19/24**

required w/ bid

	Bidders	Bid Package A Base Bid	Bid Package B Bid Alternate	Addenda (1-5)	Bid Bond	Experience- Fin. Qual.	Taxpayer ID	Nuclear Free	Oppressive States	Sanctuary City	EBO
1	DISNEY CONSTRUCTION	\$ 6,580,500.00	\$ 809,700.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2	A/B CONSTRUCTION	\$ 6,481,610.00	\$ 966,160.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3	PIPE AND PLANT SOLUTIONS	\$ 6,037,839.00	\$ <del>758,903.62</del> <b>\$756,900.00</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4	VALENTINE CORPERATION	\$ 5,449,367.00	\$ 653,000.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5	ASHLAR	\$ 3,778,152.00	\$ 352,968.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
6	TRINET CONTRUCTION INC	\$ 5,367,750.00	\$ 764,500.00	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7											
8											
9											
10											

Bid Recorder: TALIA STEWART

Talia Stewart (Dec 20, 2024 12:58 PST)

Date 12/20/2024

Bid Opener: ROOP SOORMA

Date 12/20/2024

Project Manager: RICARDO SALCEDO

Date 12/20/2024

**\*\*After reviewing bid proposals, a mathematical error was discovered for Pipe and Plant Solutions for Bid Package B. The Bid Package B amount has been revised above.**

# 25-11689-C - ABSTRACT (1)

Final Audit Report

2024-12-20

Created:	2024-12-20
By:	Talia Stewart (TStewart@berkeleyca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAAY903BJR0Yz92uuB7DXPeM8cHlfgpTwZk

## "25-11689-C - ABSTRACT (1)" History

-  Document created by Talia Stewart (TStewart@berkeleyca.gov)  
2024-12-20 - 8:33:50 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Ricardo Salcedo (RSalcedo@berkeleyca.gov) for signature  
2024-12-20 - 8:33:57 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Roopreet Soorma (RSoorma@berkeleyca.gov) for signature  
2024-12-20 - 8:33:57 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Talia Stewart (TStewart@berkeleyca.gov) for signature  
2024-12-20 - 8:33:58 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Ricardo Salcedo (RSalcedo@berkeleyca.gov)  
2024-12-20 - 8:42:11 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Ricardo Salcedo (RSalcedo@berkeleyca.gov)  
Signature Date: 2024-12-20 - 8:42:31 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Email viewed by Talia Stewart (TStewart@berkeleyca.gov)  
2024-12-20 - 8:58:26 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Talia Stewart (TStewart@berkeleyca.gov)  
Signature Date: 2024-12-20 - 8:58:38 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Email viewed by Roopreet Soorma (RSoorma@berkeleyca.gov)  
2024-12-20 - 11:21:21 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Roopreet Soorma (RSoorma@berkeleyca.gov)  
Signature Date: 2024-12-20 - 11:21:31 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.  
2024-12-20 - 11:21:31 PM GMT