



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of January 23, 2010**

DATE: January 5, 2010

SUBJECT: Authorization to increase the appropriated contract amount concerning Agreement No. 411-08 with Martin and Gass, Inc. for the construction of the Gravity Three Water Supply Main and the Washington Boulevard Bike Trail – Phase I project.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize an increase of \$240,000.00 in the contract amount in Agreement No. 411-08 for changes in materials and increased quantities related to construction of the Gravity Three Water Supply Main and the Washington Boulevard Bike Trail – Phase I project.
2. Appropriate the sum of \$240,000.00 to fund the increased contract amount.

ISSUES: This is a request for authorization by the County Board to increase the contract amount. No issues have been identified.

SUMMARY: During construction of the Gravity Three Water Supply Main and the Washington Boulevard Bike Trail – Phase I project (“Project”), emergency repairs were required at the intersection of Columbia Pike and South Quinn Street after an existing 8” sanitary sewer main was damaged during the tunneling operation to install the 20” water main required under the Project. Additionally, the embankment along Washington Boulevard required additional measures for stabilization after the water main was constructed resulting in an increase in construction costs. The contractor has completed the work and it has been accepted by the County. The total cost for this additional work is \$240,000.00

BACKGROUND: The Gravity Three Water Supply Main project was approved to improve the capabilities of County water distribution systems in the Gravity Two Pressure Zone and in the adjacent Gravity Three Pressure Zone. The Project also provides additional capacity to meet the water supply and fire flow demands of the Gravity Two Pressure Zone that serves the Columbia Pike Corridor and Fairlington area and increased demand expected in the Gravity Three Pressure Zone (which includes the Crystal City and Pentagon City areas). In addition, this Project provides the needed redundancy to help ensure water supply is maintained in the event of a major water main break in the Gravity Two and Three Pressure Zones. The total length of the

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County Attorney: CK JAM

Staff: Nilesh Naikare, DES, Engineering

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installed 20- inch diameter water main for this Project is approximately 8,600 linear feet. The second portion of this contract, the Washington Boulevard Bike Trail – Phase I, was not impacted by the two issues discussed below.¹ With the exception of punch list items, all work performed by the contractor has been complete and accepted.

DISCUSSION: In October 2008, the County Board approved the award of a Contract to Martin and Gass, Inc. for the construction of the Gravity Three Water Supply Main and the Washington Boulevard Bike Trail – Phase I project, Contract No. 411-08 in the total contract authorization amount of \$3,452,237.26. This amount included contingencies and stipulated price items. The following work requires an additional appropriation to cover the unanticipated construction costs that are the subject of an approved change order.

- a) Emergency open cut repairs had to be made at the intersection of Columbia Pike and South Quinn Street after an existing 8” sanitary sewer main was damaged during contractor’s tunneling operation. It was determined that this County sanitary sewer main was located at a different elevation from what was depicted in the construction plans. The repair to the existing sanitary sewer, the removal of the tunneling equipment and the installation of the remaining new water main crossing Columbia Pike required open cut excavation of Columbia Pike. The emergency work was performed under direction by VDOT and the County in order to minimize the disruption to the heavily travelled intersection.
- b) Approximately 500 LF of embankment along Washington Boulevard failed due to unanticipated groundwater seepage during construction. Gravel under drain matting was installed to properly drain this groundwater and prevent the embankment from future failure. That additional work has been performed by the contractor and accepted by the County.

The additional costs were reviewed and determined to be valid. The previously authorized amount for contingencies was insufficient to pay for the additional work.

It is recommended that the County Board authorize an increase in the contract amount for Agreement No. 411-08 to Martin and Gass, Inc. in the amount of \$240,000.00 and appropriate such sum as described in C.M. Recommendation above.

FISCAL IMPACT: The Gravity Three Water Supply Main project was originally approved in the Utility Construction Fund. Additional funding in the amount of \$240,000.00 has been made available to finance this work in the account 519.43543.WI67.0339

¹ Construction of “Washington Boulevard Bike Trail – Phase I” project along Washington Boulevard connecting Arlington Boulevard and Columbia Pike was identified as a priority project in the 1994 update of the Arlington Bicycle Transportation Plan. This trail connection is viewed as an important addition to Arlington’s bikeway network and will provide a key north-south connection in eastern Arlington. Phase I construction of the trail from Arlington Boulevard to just south of Walter Reed Drive is approximately 1200 feet. The trail is ten feet (10’) in width and has an asphalt surface.

