

**IMPACT STATEMENT**

**Legislation title:** Authorize the Director of the Bureau of Environmental Services to execute a Railroad Permit Agreement for Project E08401, Far North Nicolai Sewer Rehabilitation (Ordinance)

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**Presenter name:** Scott Gibson

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to authorize a contract with lowest responsible bidder to construct the Far North Nicolai Sewer Rehabilitation Project. This project is needed to decrease the risk of sewer backups within basements and public safety due to failing pipe on streets of North Portland. No City policies will change with this legislation.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

The result of this legislation includes the following:

- The City's long-term maintenance budget will need to incorporate these new green street facilities in its existing set of assets.
- No changes to the BES FY 2015-16 budget is required.
- The level of confidence is high.
- This project will neither generate nor reduce current or future revenue.
- No new City positions will be created.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

The Northwest District Sewer Project is generally bounded by NW Nicolai to Thurman and NW 21st to 28th avenues within the Northwest Industrial Neighborhood Association, Northwest District Neighborhood Association, Nob Hill Business Association and belongs to the Neighbors West Northwest coalition. This area is a mix of both businesses and residences. Most of the area is comprised of apartments (of varying degrees of income levels, including low-income, and condominiums that are more high-level income), and is a very densely populated area. The businesses are customer-based, small, and include restaurants, beauty and piercing salons, a private school, scooter and bicycle sales. Manufacturing is also present on a very large scale.

Outreach for this project began in April 2013 with a general notice for geotechnical drilling to the project area and generated no response from the neighborhood. In December 2014, after the design team met with the city's traffic engineer, it was determined that the work on NW Vaughn between NW 23rd and NW 27th would need to take place at night. The exit from Interstate 405 brings freight, residents and consumers to this NW Portland destination.

Environmental Services Public Involvement staff conducted site visits to all of the businesses that were at the proposed location for the night work. Roughly 40 businesses were informed of the construction method and need for this work to be performed at night. The Northwest Industrial Neighborhood Association received a presentation about the project on January 14, 2015. Representatives of about 20 businesses were present at the event. The biggest question raised at the meeting was about the construction timeline, the importance of maintaining traffic flow and requests that businesses be kept informed before and during the project. A public event was held on February 12, 2015 with meeting notices mailed and hand distributed to approximately 1,700

addresses within a two block radius of the proposed work areas. The public meeting was held within walking distance of the project area to make access easier. The meeting drew about 15 residents and business owners.

After a notice was sent to the project area about Environmental Services applying for a noise variance, the Noise Office scheduled a Noise Variance Hearing at City Hall for April 8, 2015. In preparation for the hearing, another notice was mailed to the project area by the week of March 13, 2015. Due to comments and concerns from the public and businesses, the hearing was cancelled and the project went into redesign. Project emerged from redesign with a significant amount of night work removed from NW Vaughn and an upsized pipe on NW Wilson within the industrial part of the neighborhood. Eleven folks attended the second public meeting for a second presentation to the neighborhood association and although they were not happy about the night work, they were appreciative of more than half of it being removed. A noise hearing had been scheduled for August and was awarded with restrictions.

Public involvement efforts will continue during construction and Environmental Services outreach staff will continue to maintain and add to the email distribution list, as well as send regular updates via email and postal mail describing the construction activities and upcoming schedule, and handling of any night work mitigation issues. Outreach staff will also be on site regularly and will post current construction information on the project webpage.

This project will benefit the surrounding neighborhood by reducing flood risk, and will benefit all city ratepayers by reducing future maintenance costs and protecting CSO infrastructure.

### Budgetary Impact Worksheet

#### Does this action change appropriations?

- ☐ YES: Please complete the information below.  
☒ NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount