



City of Rochelle
Engineering Department

Memo

To: Dave Plyman, City Manager

CC: Don Elliott, Supt. of Street Division

Scott Rozanas, Business and Railroad Development Manager

Chris Frye, Finance Director

Alan Cooper, City Attorney (via council packet)

From: Sam Tesreau, City Engineer

Date: August 17, 2011

Re: Creston Road Rochelle Railroad at grade crossing replacement improvement

Encl:

(1) letter from Fehr Graham and Associates

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- 1) The Rochelle railroad at grade crossing over Creston Rd has deteriorated to a condition needing complete replacement. In early 2011 the City manager approved an engineering agreement with Fehr Graham and Associates to develop engineering plans for the replacement. During the course of the engineering plan development and field inspections it was determined that unstable soils and base course, age of the existing rail track, ties, and related appurtenances were contributing to the failure of the crossing. This section of railroad was completed in the mid 1980's with some new and used material partially obtained through the then Chicago Northwestern railroad (now Union Pacific Railroad).
 - 2) The above referenced project was advertised in the Rochelle Newsleader and through QuestCDN website in accordance with the public notice for bids. Bids were publicly opened and read aloud on August 9th, 2011 at 10 am for the above referenced project. While six bid packages were picked up only two separate bids were received as follows:
 - Brandt Construction Co. submitted a bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$161,337.50
 - Trackmasters, Inc. submitted a bid for making the entire improvements in the amount of \$179,970.60

The reconstruction project will be funded through the City Railroad Fund. The estimated cost and budgeted amount for this line item is \$99,000 which is significantly less than the bid price. However, two other at grade crossings along the Rochelle Railroad were identified in the budget

for maintenance improvements but will most likely be funded in part by other funds and/or grants. Furthermore, the City Railroad fund has an anticipated positive balance of over \$285,000 at the end of FY 2011/12. Alone the balance will offset the cost of the replacement of this critical at grade crossing.

This at grade crossing replacement is critical to deliveries to and from the locally served industries along Caron Rd, Wiscold Dr and Steward Rd. Once the actual construction begins it is anticipated there will be a complete road closure of approximately 2 weeks along Creston Road and a railroad closure of approximately 4 days. The City's railroad operator and the Business and Railroad Development office have been notified of this upcoming project and will coordinate with the contractor when such closure occurs to insure there is minimal disruption of the railroad deliveries.

- 3) Please consider acceptance/approval of the low bid and award the contract to Brandt Construction Co. and reject all other bids received. This approval should be subject to finalized contract documents being approved and executed by the City Manager.