



Committee of the Whole Meeting – Oct. 20, 2025

Council Questions & City Staff Responses

Before each City Council meeting, questions that have been posed by the City Council relating to the agenda for that evening will be posted to the City's website. Below are the responses to this week's questions.

Agenda Item 3. Items of Business

b. Consider Draft Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Pipeline Crossing Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad for a Fiber Optic Conduit on the West Side of the Fox River Under the Train Trestle.

Q: Is the fiber line going in for a utility or for our use?

A: The fiber will be for the City.

c. Consider Draft Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Whittaker Construction & Excavating Inc. for a Sanitary Sewer River Crossing in the Amount of \$4,335,000.

d. Consider Draft Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Williams Brothers Construction for Wastewater Treatment Plant Screening Building in the Amount of \$6,290,000.

Q: What were the specific requirements in order to receive the funding from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)?

A: In order to receive IEPA loan funding, the project has to meet all IEPA wastewater code design

requirements, including but not limited to:

- Build America Buy American (BABA),
- Approval from other permitting entities,
- Illinois apprenticeship requirements,
- Fiscal sustainability requirements;
- Among other requirements.

Loans that meet the requirements are awarded based on a loan priority scoring system, which includes factors including socioeconomic data, project types, project readiness, emergency status, violation history, environmental impact, green infrastructure components, etc.

Q. Is the river crossing project or the screening building project subject to any Build America, Buy America (BABA) requirements? Can we encourage our construction partners to participate in the "Buy Illinois" program to help support manufacturing within the state?

A: Both projects were bid with BABA requirements, which are required for IEPA loan-funded

projects that have been awarded since July 2024. The major equipment (screening equipment, gates, or electrical equipment) in the project can be manufactured in Illinois, but many of general construction materials will likely be sourced from Illinois. We can encourage the contractors to source minor equipment, materials and services from Illinois where feasible, but a contractual requirement may result in a significant change order.

Q: Why was the river crossing work divided into two bid packages?

A: The River Crossing a specialized type of construction project, whereas the Screening Building is more of a typical construction project. The concern was if we kept it as one contract the overall bid price would be higher by having a single contractor for both projects.

e. Consider Draft Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Fehr Graham in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$987,000 for Sanitary River Crossing and Water Treatment Plant Screening Building Construction Engineering Services.

Q: What are our options for extending the time/hours with Fehr Graham, if construction goes over the time limits laid out in this oversight contract?

A: If extra hours are needed, we would evaluate whether the City Engineering staff could take on the additional hours. If not, we would look at an amendment to the contract with Fehr Graham. If the contractor exceeds their deadline for substantial or final completion, they would be required to pay liquidated damages to cover the cost of an amendment with Fehr Graham.

Q: Fehr Graham lists several exclusions within their proposed scope of services. Who is responsible for providing these items?

A:

- Material testing: The City has a contract for material testing with Nash Nal
- Easement procurement: No easements expected to be necessary for this project
- Wetland delineation & mitigation: No additional time for this should be needed, as it was included in the design phase.
- Department of Natural Resources, FEMA, IDOT, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permitting: All permits necessary for the project have been obtained.
- Environmental and soil remediation: Not expected for this project
- Utility relocation: Not expected to be needed
- Start-up services, training, O&M Manuals: Start-up services and training will be done by manufacturer, not needed by the engineer.

Q: On page 64 of the packet, it is stated the owner (i.e. City of Geneva) is to provide the services of an independent testing laboratory. Do we have a firm currently under contract for this work?

A: The City has a contract for material testing with Nash Nal.