



PUBLIC WORKS STAFF REPORT

MEMO DATE:	April 14 th , 2020
MEETING DATE:	April 20 th , 2020
TO:	Village Board
FROM:	JJ Larson, Director of Public Works & Utilities
RE:	Vilas Rd. Creek Crossing Project

BACKGROUND

For years, the Financial Management Plan has called for completion of a project to add a multi-use path and creek crossing along Vilas Rd. from Weald Bridge to Progress Dr. The path has been planned for over a decade, as the basecourse of stone was installed years ago as development reached the area. There have been many iterations of this project in theory and discussion. But, ultimately last year, during budget planning, it was determined that the best course of action was to simply extend the culvert underneath Vilas and pave the path.

OVERVIEW

The determination by our Engineer last fall, ahead of budget discussions, was that this crossing could be completed for under \$100,000 (the total of \$110,000 in the budget also includes the addition of a crosswalk to Cottage Grove Rd; it has since been determined this can be handled using operating budget dollars and Village staff).

Ultimately, this project came in over budget, with the lowest bidder at \$174,000 for construction.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

This project has been planned for years, and I have heard from a number of elected officials and residents about the importance of completing this connection. While it would be completely understandable to postpone the project, given the higher than planned bid results, it wouldn't change the fact that our residents are still walking this area along Vilas Rd. in a less than ideal location.

The costs of this project are unlikely to come down in the future and it is not likely that there is a road expansion or other project where this connection could be incorporated as a part of larger scope. I would recommend approval.