City makes big buys for \$4.4M project

Shelton's connector street project picking up speed

By GORDON WEEKS

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The Shelton City Commission made several moves related to the city's \$4.4 million Downtown Corridor Project on Tuesday, including awarding the construction contract, buying 35 street poles and lights, and establishing a partnership to build a bus shelter and pullout next to the library.

The project includes the complete revitalization of the West Alder Street/Olympic Highway North corridor from First Street to C Street. It includes new asphalt streets, sidewalks, streetscapes, street and pedestrian lighting, ADA ramps, stormwater upgrades and intersection improvements. The city's first roundabout will be built at the intersection of First and Alder streets.

The city estimates the project will require 215 days' worth of work. Construction is scheduled to begin in June.

Project: City council could finalize spending in 2 weeks

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A groundbreaking ceremony for the project will be at 3 p.m. May 14 at the intersection of North Fifth and West Alder streets.

The commission on Tuesday evening gave preliminary approval to an interlocal agreement with Mason Transit Authority to build a bus pullout and bus shelter next to the Shelton Timberland Library at North Eighth and West Alder streets.

Under the agreement, the city will construct the bus pullout, which includes storm water improvements, paving, striping, changes to the curb, gutters and sidewalks, illumination, landscaping and the installation of the bus shelter. MTA will provide the bus shelter and pay the city \$96,398 for the construction of the bus pullout. The commission, which will be a city council by then, can give the agreement final approval at its meeting at 7 p.m. May 15.

The commission on Tuesday also

gave preliminary approval for an interlocal agreement with Mason County PUD 3 for 33 new LED street and pedestrian light poles. The city will purchase street light poles, and PUD 3 will provide the mast arms, luminaires and install the poles. The city council can give final approval on May 15.

The commission agreed to pay Anixter Inc. of Auburn \$175,525 for 35 new light poles that will be placed along Alder Street and Olympic Highway North. Anixter was the lowest bidder. The deal can be finalized on May 15.

The commission also gave final approval to awarding a \$4.3 million contract to an Olympia company to construct the Downtown Corridor Project.

Waunch Construction & Trucking was the lowest bidder of the seven companies that competed for the contract.

The city's engineers estimated the project would cost between \$4 million and \$4.2 million. The project was put out for bid in March, and the bids were opened on April 11.