

TOWN *Of* **PARADISE VALLEY**



STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor Stanton and Town Council Members

FROM: Andrew Ching, Town Manager
Chad Weaver, Community Development Director
Shar Johnson, Town Engineer
Sam Kayat, CIP Manager

DATE: November 13th, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Community Development - Engineering
Sam Kayat, 480-348-3541

AGENDA TITLE: Locating Missing Manholes

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Town staff is providing project update and seeking Council approval to move forward with Phase Two of the missing sewer manhole locating effort. These manholes were not located during the Town's 2021 sanitary sewer assessment or in the initial search conducted by staff and the Town's consultant in Phase One of the search for missing manholes. As a result, they remain uninspected and without structural evaluation. Phase Two will utilize advanced technologies to locate and assess the remaining manholes.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize Town manager to execute contract No. CON-26-018-ENG with Michael Baker International for amount not to exceed \$101,163 for phase II of sanitary sewer manhole locating services.

BACKGROUND

- October 2024: Engineering staff became aware of missing manholes that had not been located during the Town's sanitary sewer assessment concluded in 2021.
- December 2024: Staff requested and received an updated count of missing manholes from the consultant who performed the 2021 assessment. The consultant reported 129 missing manholes.
- January to March 2025: Staff conducted their own field search and successfully located 55 of the missing manholes. The remaining manholes required specialized equipment to locate.
- May 2025: The Town retained Michael Baker International to conduct a more detailed search. The work was divided into two phases:

- Phase One: Utilized ground penetrating radar (GPR) and metal detectors to locate as many manholes as possible. This phase concluded in June 2025, with 25 manholes located.
- Phase Two (upcoming): Will use more advanced technologies to continue searching for the remaining 49 missing manholes.

Phase two of the search will use robotic crawlers equipped with cameras and sounders to locate manholes, mark found manholes, expose manholes if possible and update manhole location in the Town's geographic information system (GIS).

BUDGETARY IMPACT

The Town's FY26 CIP budget includes \$150,000 for sanitary sewer assessment. The current estimated cost to complete this task is \$101,163.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- A. Staff Report
- B. Presentation
- C. Contract No. CON-26-018-ENG