

FROM: ROB PALUS, ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER

SUBJECT: STAFF REPORT SELTICE WAY CONGESTION MITIGATION PROJECT

The Seltice Congestion Mitigation Project has been under construction for approximately 45 days. Engineering Staff will provide a status update for the Council on this project. No action is required by the Council as this is for informational purposes only. DISCUSSION: In June of 2017 a grant project was awarded to Thorco Construction in the amount of \$2.1 million to construct three (3) traffic signals in the downtown area and interconnect them to the existing signals on Spokane Street. The City's portion of the project is approximately \$236,000. The purpose of the project is to address developing congestion concerns and improve safety.

Construction started on July 23rd and is currently on schedule. The contractor is working on setting signal foundations, installing pedestrian ramps and interconnecting all locations with fiber optic communications. Steel for the signal posts and arms is anticipated for delivery in November of 2018 and will be installed as weather allows either in the winter of 2018 or spring of 2019.

When the signals are put into operation, there will be a 60-day period of monitoring and fine tuning of the signals by the manufacturer of the signal controller. The interconnected signals will improve traffic flow, through most parts of the day, by allowing the signals to work together and adapt more quickly to changing traffic patterns. As part of this project, City Staff will have the ability to monitor and adjust the signals remotely.

Four (4) of the seven (7) signals that will be interconnected are owned and operated by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). ITD also controls the I90 Business loop comprising Spokane Street from I90 to Seltice Way and Seltice Way from Spokane Street to Bay Street. This project represents a cooperative effort between ITD and the City to balance local and regional priorities in traffic operations in the interest of more efficient and safer transportation networks.