

August 22, 2025



Mayor Johnny Magee  
City of Laurel  
P.O. Box 647  
Laurel, MS 39441

REFERENCE: JOE WHEELER AVENUE ARPA UTILITY AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMNTS PROJECT  
CITY OF LAUREL – JONES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Dear Mayor:

The project's work has progressed to a point where most of the quantities are final quantities. There are many quantities under plan quantity, and there are many over plan quantity. The current contract amount is not large enough to make the last few payments to the contractor prior to project closeout. Therefore, Change Order #2 has been created to revise the contract amount to reflect near-final quantities for the project. There are two primary reasons for the contract amount increase. The first is due to a significant quantity of pavement base repair areas that were not visible prior to milling the existing asphalt. The second is due to unmapped existing water mains that serviced 19<sup>th</sup> Street from the to-be-abandoned water mains on Joe Wheeler Ave. A new 6" water main extension and services were required to be installed on 19<sup>th</sup> Street to provide water service to those residents. Due to the water main extension, 19<sup>th</sup> Street received asphalt base repairs and a mill and overlay. At this time, the total increase in contract price is \$250,285.95.

The contractor has submitted two time extension requests. Upon review, it is my opinion that the contractor is due an additional 27 days for authorized work that was outside the original project scope and for unforeseen utility delays. The requests and response letters are attached for your reference.

Neel-Schaffer therefore recommends that the City review and consider Change Order #2.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

NEEL-SCHAFER, INC.

  
Mandy Hegwood, PE

Enclosures

engineers | planners | surveyors | environmental scientists | landscape architects

P: 601.649.1840 | F: 601.649.1848

328 N. Magnolia Street | P.O. Box 1852 (39441)  
Laurel, MS 39440

[www.neel-schaffer.com](http://www.neel-schaffer.com)

