



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: January 9, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467
Director:
Contact Info: Jill Van Wie, Capital Program Leader (805) 568-2470
SUBJECT: Union Pacific Railroad Longitudinal Pipeline Agreement for the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access Project; First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Risk Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to execute a Longitudinal Pipeline Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to allow the County to install and maintain a culvert and drainage pipeline within the UPRR right-of-way as part of the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access Project (Project) (Attachment A);
- b) Determine that pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15162, no substantial changes are proposed to the project, and no new information of substantial importance has come to light regarding environmental effects of the project, and therefore these actions are within the scope of the project covered by the Mitigated Negative Declaration (19NGD-00000-00005) adopted by the County of Santa Barbara on September 30, 2019, and that therefore no new environmental document is required.

Summary Text:

The Longitudinal Pipeline Agreement (Agreement) allows for construction and long-term maintenance and repair of a culvert and drainage pipe as part of the at-grade pedestrian railroad crossing that will be constructed in conjunction with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) for the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access Project. The site drainage elements will be located within UPRR right-of-way parallel to the existing railroad tracks and outside of the track roadbed. Construction of the pedestrian railroad crossing is anticipated to occur once required UPRR agreements are in place, Project funding is secured and in

conjunction with phased construction completion of the Santa Claus Lane streetscape improvements being implemented by County Public Works' (Public Works). The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), Public Works and Community Services are working together to identify funding opportunities for the Project in association with the Caltrans Highway 101 widening project.

Background:

The Santa Claus Lane Beach Access Project is located along Santa Claus Lane in the unincorporated area of the County between Summerland and the City of Carpinteria. Santa Claus Lane Beach is a popular destination for locals, tourists, and families due to its laid-back charm, wide beaches, and direct access from US Highway 101 and local bus routes. The Project will formalize beach access to Santa Claus Lane Beach by securing public access rights and constructing an accessway over the existing railroad tracks between Santa Claus Lane and Santa Claus Lane Beach. The beach access and safety improvements are part of a master circulation improvement plan, the Santa Claus Lane Improvements projects, along the entire length of Santa Claus Lane. The improvements are connected to the Highway 101 widening and are focused on improving public safety, formalizing and increasing parking, improving multi-modal circulation, managing storm water runoff, providing an authorized coastal access point across UPRR railroad facilities, providing public restrooms, and improving aesthetics within the Santa Claus Lane area. Community Services, Public Works, and Planning and Development have been coordinating and developing these projects in adherence to community development and coastal access plan goals and key issues identified in the Toro Canyon Community Plan (2004) and Local Coastal Plan (2019). All Santa Claus Lane Improvement projects have been developed in cooperation with the State of Caltrans and SBCAG. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and UPRR have been key partners in the development of these long-term projects in order to provide for safe, legal and single-point public access across the railroad tracks to the coastal resources of Santa Claus Lane Beach.

The Santa Claus Lane Improvements projects have been divided into two project phases due to programming of construction and funding availability. Phase 1 is the Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvements Project developed by Public Works with construction commencement anticipated in early 2024. Phase 2 is the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access Project. Design of the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access Project has been completed and is pending final review by UPRR. Construction will commence after the initial Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvements Project is completed by Public Works and once funding is secured. Board approval of the recommendations will provide for the necessary establishment of a Longitudinal Pipeline Agreement with UPRR within the CPUC permitted timeframe in order for the County to install and maintain necessary railroad crossing drainage appurtenances. The Santa Claus Lane Improvements projects will provide an overall regional benefit to coastal access.

Risk:

Not implementing the agreement would affect the ability to construct the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

A stipulated one-time licensing fee in the amount of \$56,240 is payable to UPRR for implementation upon execution of the Longitudinal Pipeline Agreement and prior to construction commencement. Funds for the licensing fee are budgeted within the Community Services Department capital fund budget for the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access Project for reimbursement by future Phase 2 project funds.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Longitudinal Pipeline Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad

Special Instructions:

After Board action, please distribute as follows to Jill Van Wie, Community Services Department:

1. Minute Order
2. Longitudinal Pipeline Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad