

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



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

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: April 1, 2004
Department Name: Public Works - Transportation
Department No.: 054
Agenda Date: April 20, 2004
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phillip M. Demery, Director
Public Works Department

STAFF CONTACT: Dacé Morgan, 568-3047
Engineering Manager

SUBJECT: Construction of Old Coast Highway Bridge No. 51C-0346 Replacement at Nojoqui Creek, in the Third Supervisorial District of Santa Barbara County; Public Works Project No. 863019.

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve plans and specifications for the Construction of Old Coast Highway Bridge No. 51C-0346 Replacement at Nojoqui Creek, in the Third Supervisorial District of Santa Barbara County, Public Works Project No. 863019;
- B. Award the construction contract in the amount of \$1,563,356.85 to the lowest responsible bidder, Griffith Company, a California corporation (not a local vendor), 12631 East Imperial Highway, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670, subject to the provisions of documents and certification, as set forth in the plans and specifications applicable to the project and as required by law;
- C. Authorize the chair to execute the construction contract upon return of the Contractor's executed contract documents and the review and approval of the County Counsel, Auditor-Controller, and Risk Manager or their authorized representatives; and
- D. Approve a contingency fund in the amount of \$90,667.84 for Construction of Old Coast Highway Bridge No. 51C-0346 Replacement, for a total contract amount of \$1,654,024.69.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 1. An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On Thursday, March 25th, 2004, ten (10) bids were opened for the replacement of Old Coast Highway Bridge. Griffith Company submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$1,563,356.85.

The Engineer's Estimate is 23.56% below the lowest responsible bid. The three lowest submitted bids were within \$6,500 or 0.4% of each other and represent a good bid result. After further review of all bids, Public Works staff investigated the source of the difference of cost with the Engineer's Estimate. It was found that the reason was mainly due to the high increase in the cost of steel. Over the last twelve months the cost of steel has increased approximately 110%, with 30% of that increase occurring over the last three months. This increase is a direct result of a high demand for steel world wide. With the unstable steel market, suppliers will not guarantee steel prices to contractors. Therefore, the contractors are projecting the cost of steel from the time that they submit bids to the time that the contract is awarded, which is approximately one month for this project. Given this information, the Department recommends awarding this contract to Griffith Company, which as stated above, was the lowest responsible bidder. Staff has contacted Caltrans and has received approval for the increase in cost. Eighty percent (80%) of the funding for this project will be reimbursed through the Highway Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement (HBRR) program. The project was approved by your Board in the FY 2003/2004 Capital Improvement Plan.

This project is located on Old Coast Highway Road approximately 0.6 miles south of State Highway 101 at Nojoqui Creek between Gaviota and Buellton. The project will replace existing Bridge No. 51C-113, which is 88 years old, which surpasses a bridge's typical life expectancy of 75 years. It is in poor condition and has degraded beyond repair, and the structure has been determined to be structurally deficient. The new structure, renumbered to be Bridge No. 51C-0346, will be a cast in place concrete box girder and will be twice the length to provide protection from future scouring of the banks. The new structure will provide two 12-foot travel lanes and two 4-foot shoulders. The existing structure provides two 11-foot travel lanes with no shoulders.

Construction of this project will begin near the end of May 2004 and will last approximately six months. This portion of Old Coast Highway road will be closed during construction. For motorists traveling to and from Nojoqui Park, they will be directed from Highway 101 to Highway 246, through Buellton to Solvang, and south on Alisal Road which provides access to the park. This is the officially signed detour, the length of which is approximately 16 miles. The southerly portion of Old Coast Highway which terminates at Highway 101 and Nojoqui Grade will be closed at the completion of construction under the terms of the right-of-way negotiations.



Photo: Existing Bridge 51C-113

Mandates and Service Levels:

No change in programs or service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Funding for this project will be provided through the Federally funded HBRR program. The HBRR program will provide 80% (\$1,323,219.75) of the project funds with the remaining 20% (\$330,804.94) from the County's Measure "D" revenues. Funding for the project is budgeted in Fund 0015, Org Unit 0002, Program 2900, Department 054 and Account 7510 and 7511 (Meas D).

Special Instructions:

After Board action, please distribute a certified stamped Minute Order approving the actions as follows:

1. Minute Order Public Works, 2400 Professional Pkwy, Engineering Section.
Attn: Walter Rubalcava

2. Minute Order Public Works, 123 East Anapamu, Engineering Section.
Attn: Beverly Cross

Concurrence:

County Counsel
 Risk Management
 Auditor-Controller