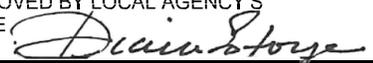


## Exhibit 12-F: Cost-Effectiveness / Public Interest Finding / A&E Noncompetitive

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
<b>COST-EFFECTIVENESS/PUBLIC INTEREST FINDING</b>		
<b>COST-EFFECTIVENESS DETERMINATION REQUIRED</b>	<b>PUBLIC INTEREST DETERMINATION REQUIRED</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Use of force account (23 CFR 635.204, 205)* <input type="checkbox"/> Use of publicly owned equipment (23 CFR 635.106) <input type="checkbox"/> Other*: _____  * Requires Caltrans District approval ** Requires FHWA approval	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of publicly furnished materials (23 CFR 635.407) <input type="checkbox"/> Use of contracting method other than competitive bidding (23 CFR 635.104/204)* <input type="checkbox"/> Use of mandatory borrow/disposal sites (23 CFR 635.407) <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising period less than 3 weeks (23 CFR 635.112)* <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver of Buy America Requirements (23 CFR 635.410)** <input type="checkbox"/> Other*: _____	
<b>A&amp;E NONCOMPETITIVE DETERMINATION REQUIRED</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of non-competitive negotiated consultant contracts (23 CFR 172.7) (a) (3)*  (Must select one of the limited circumstances)	MUST MEET ONE OF THE FOLLOWING LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES:  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service is available only from a single source <input type="checkbox"/> There is an emergency which will not permit the time necessary to conduct competitive negotiations <input type="checkbox"/> After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined to be inadequate	
FEDERAL-AID PROJECT	CLASS OF FEDERAL FUNDS: <input type="checkbox"/> IM <input type="checkbox"/> NH <input type="checkbox"/> STP <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:	
	STEWARDSHIP: <input type="checkbox"/> DELEGATED <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH PROFILE	
ID	DIST-CO-RTE- PM	ESTIMATED COST
COUNTY 19H	05-SB-0-CR	35,000.00
		FEDERAL FUNDS
		35,000.00
PROJECT SPECIFIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MULTIPLE PROJECTS <input type="checkbox"/>	REGIONAL/DISTRICTWIDE <input type="checkbox"/>
		STATEWIDE <input type="checkbox"/>
GENERAL LOCATION	GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF WORK	
Hollister Ave-State Street in an unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County	Complete the revisions of the draft environmental document (EIR/EA) for the Hollister Ave-State Street Improvement project; circulate it for public review; and receive final approval.	
REASONS THAT REQUESTED APPROVAL IS CONSIDERED (STATE):		
<p>In order to comply with the National Environmental Policy( NEPA), the County is and has conducted technical studies and has drafted the environmental document outlined in the Preliminary Environmental Study (PES) prepared by Caltrans. This project required the preparation of 12 technical studies and a combined CEQA/NEPA, Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA). In May 2020, the County entered into a competitively solicited contract with Rincon Consultants, Inc. to perform this work. They were selected based on qualifications.</p> <p>Although the draft environmental document (EIR/EA) is complete and submitted to Caltrans Environmental for review, its review was deferred until the final approval of the last technical report HRER/HPSR. This report was signed off by the District but required further review and concurrence by Caltrans Cultural Service Office (CSO) and the State Historic Preservation office (SHPO). The HRER/HPSR also includes the Archaeological Study Report (ASR), the Finding of No Adverse Effect (FOE) and the Environmentally Sensitive Action Plan (ESA). During the execution of the Phase II Cultural Resource Study intact subsurface cultural deposits were discovered which required the updating of the ASR and the preparation of the FOE and ESA. Due to these sensitivities, additional work is required to meet the requirements of the CSO and SHPO.</p> <p>Once the further work required by the CSO and SHPO on the related HPSR/HRER cultural package are complete, utilizing Rincon Consultants, Inc to complete the revisions of the EIR/EA, circulate it for public review and receive final approval would be the most cost effective, practical approach as they were predetermined to be the most qualified consultant during the process described above and are the most knowledgeable of the County's project and its environmental conditions and the most knowledgeable of the draft EIR/EA they prepared.</p>		
REMARKS (STATE) :		
PREPARED/APPROVED BY LOCAL AGENCY'S REPRESENTATIVE	REPRESENTATIVE NAME AND TITLE:	Date:
	Diana Estorga, Project Manager	7/14/21
*APPROVED BY DISTRICT LOCAL ASSISTANCE ENGINEER (DLAE)	DLAE NAME:	Date:
	Reinie Jones	07/15/2021
**APPROVED BY FHWA (Buy America Waiver only)	FHWA REPRESENTATIVE NAME:	Date:

Distribution: (1) Local Agency File - Original; (2) DLAE - Copy; (3) Caltrans Project Manager - Copy if on the SHS

**Exhibit 12-F: Cost-Effectiveness / Public Interest Finding / A&E Noncompetitive****Instructions**

1. Check appropriate box under “Cost-Effective Determination Required,” “Public Interest Determination Required,” or [A&E Noncompetitive Determination Required](#). If [A&E Noncompetitive Determination Required](#) is checked, check one of the limited circumstances.
2. Check “Class of Funds” as follows: IM-Interstate Maintenance, NH-National Highway, STP - State Transportation Program, Other (all other classes).
3. Provide the Federal-aid Project ID number in first column.
4. Identify Caltrans District-County-State Route-Post Mile, or City and street in second column.
5. List Estimated Cost of the portion of the project subject to this PIF.
6. List the amount of the Federal Funds in the portion of the project subject to this PIF.
7. Describe “General Location” applicable to this PIF.
8. Provide “General Description of Work” affected by this PIF.
9. Explain and give “Reasons that requested approval is considered to be cost-effective, in the public’s best interest, or [meet A&E noncompetitive procurement](#).” Provide cost analysis or comparison as evidence of cost-effectiveness.
10. “Remarks” is for the Local Agency Representative preparing the Finding.
11. Signature, Name, and Title of Local Agency Representative preparing or approving PIF, as appropriate, and Date.
12. Signature and Name of District Local Assistance Engineer approving the PIF, as required, and Date.
13. Signature and Name of FHWA representative approving the PIF for Buy America waivers, and Date.