



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:** Public Works  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** August 31, 2021  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director: Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010  
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064  
**SUBJECT:** **Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment Preparation Contract for Hollister Avenue-State Street Improvements Project; Public Works Project No. 862382, Federal Project HPLUL-5951(158), Second Supervisorial District**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Management**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Rincon Consultants, Inc., 1530 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, for a contract amount of \$30,807 and a contingency of \$2,691.42 for a total project authorization of \$33,498.42 to complete the environmental document for the Hollister Avenue-State Street Improvements Project, County Project 862382, Federal Project HPLUL-5951(158), in the Second Supervisorial District;
- b) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works, or designee, to extend the period of performance for up to one year in accordance with Section 4.C. and to make immaterial changes pursuant to Section 36 of the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Rincon Consultants, Inc.;
- c) Authorize the Director of Public Works or designee to approve amendments to the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Rincon Consultants, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$2,691.42; and
- d) Determine the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) because it consists of organizational or administrative

activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to award a professional A&E services contract to Rincon Consultants, Inc. for completing the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) including updates based on the cultural technical studies for the Hollister Ave/State Street Improvements Project. The additional work needed for agency concurrence of the cultural studies is being completed under a separate contract.

In order to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the County is and has conducted technical studies and has drafted the environmental document for the Project 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 their experience and qualifications.

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, the Historical Resource Evaluation Report (HRER)/Historic Property Survey Report (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.

Once the further work required by the CSO and SHPO on the related HPSR/HRER cultural package are complete, Rincon Consultants, Inc will complete the revisions of the EIR/EA, circulate it for public review, and obtain final approval from State agencies. Because Rincon Consultants, Inc. already has considerable knowledge of the County's Project and its environmental conditions, and they prepared the draft EIR/EA, they are the most experienced and qualified firm to complete the work on the environmental document. On July 15, 2021, Caltrans approved a public interest finding supporting the single source use of Rincon Consultants, Inc. to complete the work on the EIR/EA.

**Background:**

On September 16, 2019, the Public Works Department solicited proposals from professional engineering firms to complete the Environmental Documents (ED) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to meet the legal requirements of a complete, adequate, and objective report of the proposed project's environmental consequences. Based on the Special Studies completed, a combined draft CEQA-NEPA document, Environmental Impact Report (EIR)-Environmental Assessment (EA), was prepared. On October 7, 2019, two (2) proposals were received. Public Works evaluated the proposals based on selection criteria defined in the request for proposal (RFP). Rincon Consultants, Inc. proposal was responsive, met the qualifications and experience required to perform the work, and was the top ranked proposer as defined by the RFP.

Pursuant to the successful negotiations, Public Works awarded the contract to Rincon Consultant, Inc., based on their demonstrated competence and professional qualifications.

The Hollister Avenue - State Street Improvements Project, designed in part to address circulation and capacity issues, is currently identified in the Goleta Transportation Improvement Program as a mitigation measure for the 1993 Goleta Community Plan (Action CIRC-GV-2.13). Hollister Avenue and State Street are two and four lane arterials that provide the principal east/west circulation through the City of Goleta, the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County, and the City of Santa Barbara. Hollister Avenue begins at the western end of the City of Goleta at the Winchester Canyon/Highway 101 interchange and merges into State Street near the Modoc Road intersection at the railroad undercrossing. At the railroad bridge, Hollister Avenue becomes State Street and continues until its termination at Cabrillo Boulevard in the City of Santa Barbara.

This corridor parallels US 101 on its south side from the City of Santa Barbara through the City of Goleta and the unincorporated areas of Goleta. It is a primary alternate route for US 101. Hollister Avenue and the State Street segment are Primary-2 (P-2) roadways in the Santa Barbara County's Circulation Element. Within the Circulation Element, a P-2 is defined as a roadway that serves a high proportion of non-residential development, with some residential lots and few or no driveway curb cuts. This roadway classification requires lane widths of a minimum of 12 feet with well-spaced curb cuts. Signal intervals are typically established at a minimum of 0.5-mile intervals.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
SAFETEA LU (100%)	\$ 33,498.42
Total	\$ 33,498.42

**Narrative:**

This project is federally funded by SAFETEA-LU funds at 100%. The funds are budgeted in Dept. 054, Fund 0017, Org. Unit 0600, Program 2830, and LI Acct 7460 for Fiscal Years 2019/20 and 2020/21.

**Key Contract Risks:**

There is low risk associated with this Agreement. The Agreement allows the County to terminate the Agreement upon thirty days written notice for convenience, and costs are not incurred until work is performed by the Contractor.

**Special Instructions:**

Please forward the following items to Gail Ocheltree in the Public Works Department, Transportation Division, 123 E. Anapamu Street, extension 3094:

- A certified, stamped Minute Order approving these recommendations
- Two duplicate originals executed amendment signature pages, keep one copy for Clerk

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor for the Hollister Ave-State Street Improvements Project, County Project No. 862382, Federal Project HPLUL-5951(158), (3 duplicate originals)

Attachment B: 862382 Rincon Public Interest Finding Exhibit 12-F

Attachment C: 862382 Rincon Non-Competitive Request Statement

**Authored by:**

Diana Estorga, Project Manager, 805-803-8763

G:\Transportation\Projects\862382 (Formerly 863035) Hollister-State Improvements Phase I\Design\600 Accounting-Funding\600.3  
Purchase Orders-MSA-Contracts\Rincon\_Final Board Contract\862382 Award BL EIR-EA Rincon Contract\_F.Docx