



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: January 14, 2014

Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director Scott D. McGolpin, Department of Public Works, 568-3010
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064
SUBJECT: **Environmental Impact Report Preparation Contract for Hollister Avenue-State Street Improvement Project; Public Works Project No. 863035, Second Supervisorial District**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Planning and Development

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached Agreement for Services with Rincon Consultants, Inc. to complete an Environmental Impact Report for the Hollister Avenue-State Street Improvement Project for a base contract amount of \$181,220, with a 10 percent contingency of \$18,122, for a total project authorization of \$199,342;
- B. Authorize the Director of Public Works or designee to approve changes or additions in the services being performed in an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the base contract amount; and
- C. Find that the proposed approval of the contract is not a project under CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b) as it involves administrative activities that will not result in physical changes in the environment, and approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Summary Text:

The Public Works Department recently completed a Project Study Report (PSR) for the Hollister Avenue-State Street Corridor. The PSR addresses the growing need for improvements for approximately 1.25 miles of Hollister Avenue and State Street to meet current and future needs of the community. The study evaluated two alternative projects, each with two additional sub-alternatives to add vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities to improve circulation and safety.

Staff analyzed the alternatives and determined Alternative 1 with the signalized intersections is the preferred project because it provides the best circulation when compared with Alternative 2, and the alternatives with roundabouts are cost-prohibitive due to right-of-way acquisition and relocation costs. Your Board authorized Public Works to continue project development, including the environmental review on September 3, 2013. Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is the next step in that process.

On October 10, 2013 the Public Works Department advertised a Notice for Request for Proposals in the Santa Barbara News Press seeking professional environmental consultant services. Six environmental consultants submitted proposals. All six proposals were evaluated using a selection process described in the Request for Proposal. Rincon Consultants Inc. ranked the highest. The other five consultants were notified and debriefed about their proposal and scoring. Staff recommends awarding the contract to Rincon Consultants, Inc. on the basis of its demonstrated competence and professional qualifications.

Background:

The Hollister Avenue - State Street Improvement 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.

Between San Antonio Road and State Route 154, Hollister Avenue and State Street currently have segments that narrow to two-lanes and create a bottleneck to east/west traffic movements. Within this two-lane section of Hollister Avenue and State Street, the road passes under the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) mainline. Corridor improvements include replacing this aging structure with one wide enough to accommodate the new roadway configuration.

The County's Long Range Planning Division of the Planning and Development Department has also been studying a streetscape plan to improve aesthetics, safety, accessibility, economic vitality, and functionality of the project area. The mixed-use commercial and residential areas along the Hollister-State corridor are expected to evolve over the next 10-20 years to include a cohesive mix of small-scale commercial and residential uses serving a range of travel modes, including vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, and transit riders. Preparation of an EIR is the next step in that process.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Cost</u>
SAFETEA-LU (Federal)	\$159,474
GTIP (local)	\$39,868
Total	\$199,342

Narrative:

A federal SAFETEA-LU grant sponsored by Congresswoman Lois Capps will fund 80% (\$159,474) of this work. This grant requires a 20% match (\$39,868), which is being provided by the Goleta Transportation Improvement Plan (GTIP). Funding is budgeted in Department 054, Program 2830, Fund 0017, Org 0600, account 7460.

Special Instructions:

Please forward one original executed agreement and a certified stamped Minute Order approving these actions to Gena Valentine Felix, Public Works, Transportation Admin, 568-3064.

Attachments:

1. Contract Summary
2. Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor
3. Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Walter Rubalcava, Public Works Transportation, Engineering Section, 739-8775