



**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

**Submitted on:**  
**(COB Stamp)**

**Department Name:** Public Works  
**Department No.:** 054  
**Agenda Date:** December 16, 2025  
**Placement:** Administrative Agenda  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director(s): Chris Sneddon, Public Works Director  
Contact: Mostafa Estaji, Deputy Director, Transportation Division  
**SUBJECT:** Cooperative Agreement between Caltrans and County for Construction of Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvement and Coastal Access Project – Phase 2; State Project No. 525000106; County Project No. 720864; First Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the allocation of construction funding and reimbursement to the County of Santa Barbara for work on the Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvements and Coastal Access Project Phase 2, First Supervisorial District;
- b) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works or designee to advertise for bids for the project as described in the Cooperative Agreement; and
- c) Consider the environmental effects of the project as shown in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (19NGD-00000-00005) dated September 16, 2019, adopted by the County of Santa Barbara on September 25, 2019, and find that pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines §15162(a), no substantial changes are proposed, and there are no substantial changes in circumstances or new information of substantial importance regarding significant impacts or feasibility of mitigation measures and alternative, and therefore approval of the Recommended Actions are within the scope of the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (19NGD-00000-00005). The Final Mitigated Negative Declaration can be found here:  
<https://cosantabarbara.app.box.com/s/q97rv82305oyfnbdjhcyxrrdhu3dggkqy/file/527282257113>

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to approve the Cooperative Agreement between the County and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to fund the construction phase of the Santa Claus Lane Streetscape and Coastal Access Improvements Project Phase 2; County Project 720864; State Project No. 525000106; First Supervisorial District.

**Discussion:**

The execution of this Agreement will allow for the County and Caltrans to finalize the cooperative development of this second phase of the proposed project and submit a funding allocation request to the California Transportation Commission (CTC), to fund construction of the project. The Funding allocation request is scheduled to be reviewed and approved at the CTC on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The County is the implementing agency responsible for development and administration of the project. Caltrans is the funding agency responsible for obtaining Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) funding through CTC. The programmed funding allocation is estimated to be \$12.5 million dollars of ITIP funding and will provide reimbursement to the County for costs directly associated with the construction contract, construction administration, and costs that County is responsible for reimbursing Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) for their portion of construction costs.

**Background:**

The proposed Santa Claus Lane Streetscape and Coastal Access Improvements Project Phase 2 is located on Santa Claus Lane between Padaro Lane and Sandpoint Road. The recently completed construction of Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvements Phase 1A primarily focused on a multi-use path, retaining walls, drainage improvements and coastal access parking on the Highway 101 or mountain side of Santa Claus Lane. Phase 2 of the project primarily focuses on providing an authorized controlled pedestrian crossing of UPRR facilities to provide access to Santa Claus Lane Beach, and includes retaining walls, sidewalks, formalized angled coastal access parking, landscaped bulb-outs and medians, crosswalks, streetlights and other appurtenances. These Phase 2 improvements to Santa Claus Lane were developed in coordination with adjacent proposed and completed improvements involving County, Caltrans, City of Carpinteria, Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), and the California Public Utility Commission, for completing a segment of the California Coastal Trail.

Phase 3 of the Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvements Project will focus on finishing planned improvements within the business corridor of Santa Claus Lane. Upon the successful award of a construction contract for Phase 2 of the project, a request for construction funding will be submitted to Caltrans and the County of Santa Barbara County Associations of Government (SBCAG) to determine available funding sources to allocate towards Phase 3.

Previously, on August 14, 2018, your Board approved a Baseline Funding Agreement with SBCAG, Caltrans, and the California Transportation Commission to receive funds awarded for the implementation of the Highway 101 Multimodal Corridor project from Cycle 1 of the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (Senate Bill 1 Funding). The MOU for these projects was approved by your Board on June 4, 2019, and Amendment No. 2 was approved by your Board on November 29, 2022.

On September 17, 2024, a construction funding MOU with SBCAG was approved by your Board, for the construction funding allocation for Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvements Project Phase 1A.

On September 23, 2025, your Board approved and executed a Construction and Maintenance Agreement with UPRR for the construction of the at-grade pedestrian crossing for this Santa Claus Lane Streetscape Improvements and Beach Access Project. In addition, your Board approved Amendment No. 1 to the MOU with SBCAG to provide funding to County for initial costs for the UPRR Agreement for this Project.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes, the project is budgeted in FY 2025-26. The budget amount for FY26-27 will be added to the recommended budget.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

With the approval and execution of the Cooperative Agreement, Caltrans and County will be able to request construction allocation funding of up to \$12.5 million dollars from the California Transportation Commission. County would then request reimbursement from approved costs incurred for the project through submittal for reimbursement through Caltrans oversight.

This project is budgeted in Fund FD-0017, Prog PG-0542830, Cost Center CC54210, Projects PRJ-00782 (720864).

Funding Source	FY 25/26	FY26-27	Total
State – ITIP funds	\$8,000,000	\$4,500,000	<b>\$12,500,000</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$12,500,000</b>

**Special Instructions:**

After Board action, please distribute as follows via email and intraoffice mail (620 W Foster Rd) to Christian Doolittle:

1. A certified, stamped Minute Order approving of these Board actions
2. Two partially executed original Cooperative Agreements

One fully executed Cooperative Agreement will be returned to the Clerk of the Board, upon execution and return by Caltrans.

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** – Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for Santa Claus Lane Streetscape and Coastal Access Improvements Project Phase 2

**Contact Information:**

Christian Doolittle, Engineering Manager II, [cdoolit@countyofsb.org](mailto:cdoolit@countyofsb.org)