



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:** 07/18/2023  
**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: Mostafa Estaji, Interim Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3060  
**SUBJECT:** Receive and File CN4850 with Nichols Consulting Engineers for Utility Cuts and Refuse Collection/Heavy Vehicles on Roads Impact Study, All Supervisorial Districts

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: n/a

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file Purchase Contract CN4850 with Nichols Consulting Engineers, not a local vendor, to provide a service to evaluate the impacts of utility cuts and refuse collection trucks/heavy construction vehicles on the County's road for \$120,000 with a term of May 10, 2023 to June 30, 2024; and
- b) Determine that the recommended action is not a Project within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines, because the action is an organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

The Public Works Department has hired Nichols Consulting Engineers (NCE) to provide professional consulting services. The Purchase Contract (CN4850) was approved by purchase order contract on May 10, 2022 for a total amount of \$120,000, with a contract end date of June 30, 2024 (Attachment A). Although not required, the Public Works Department brings this before your Board in order to keep you apprised of studies to permit fees.

The purpose of this study is to assess the structural and financial impact of trench excavations and the impacts from heavy vehicles on County roads. Heavy vehicles are refuse/recycle/green waste collection trucks, buses, fire trucks or other heavy vehicles on roads in the County. Currently, there is a Pavement Cut Restoration Fee for trench cuts on existing pavement in the Board approved fee schedule for Encroachment Permits. As part of this study, a revised Pavement Cut Fee may be recommended. The

study may also recommend mitigation fees or assessments for the impacts of heavy vehicle use on the County roadway system. These additional fees will help to mitigate the increased costs associated with these activities/trips on the county road system.

**Background:**

Studies of roadway trenching cuts and excavations determined that these cuts and excavations have long term effects on the rest of the pavement after a trench is excavated and backfilled. Additionally, heavy vehicles such as refuse/recycle/green waste collection trucks, buses and fire trucks take a toll on the service life of a roadway pavement. Agencies across the state have begun undertaking reviews of the impacts of these uses and how to mitigate their effects on public roadways. Public Works contracted with NCE to perform similar analysis for County roads. As part of their analysis and review for this contract, NCE may also recommend an equivalent dwelling mitigation fee to be applied for new development. Since every new dwelling or commercial space generates heavy vehicle use during the construction of the space, it is proposed that a new mitigation fee will be developed and recommended to your Board.

NCE is well qualified with extensive experience performing similar pavement-related impact studies throughout California and the country. They are a nationally recognized pavement specialty firm with broad capabilities and expertise in the areas of pavement management, research, analysis, design, and determining impacts of trenching and heavy vehicle use on roadway pavement.

The Public Works Department will return to the Board with the study when it is complete later this fall.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>	
Road Fund	\$	120,000.00
Total	\$	120,000.00

**Narrative:**

Funding for this impact study is budgeted in the Road Fund. The funds are budgeted in Dept. 054, Fund 0015, LI Acct 7460 for FY 2023-2024.

**Special Instructions:**

Please forward the following to the Public Works Department, Construction and Permits Office, 4417 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110 Attn: Michelle Garcia, 681-4990.

- A certified, stamped Minute Order approving these recommendations.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Purchase Contract CN4850

**Authored by:**

Eric Pearson, P.E., Construction Manager, 681-4990