



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:** Community Services  
**Department No.:** 057  
**For Agenda Of:** December 3, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A  
**Vote Required:** 4/5ths

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Jesús Armas, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467  
Director:  
Contact Info: Jill Van Wie, Capital Program Manager, (805) 568-2470  
**SUBJECT:** Caltrans mitigation Cooperative Agreement for the Paradiso del Mare Coastal Trail, Third Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Management; CEO Budget**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the Director of the Community Services Department, or designee, to receive \$75,000 in funding from Caltrans for the Paradiso del Mare coastal trail project;
- b) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the attached Caltrans mitigation Cooperative Agreement for the Paradiso del Mare coastal trail project (Attachment A);
- c) Approve Budget Revision Request No. 001020 for the mitigation funding (4/5 vote required); and
- d) Determine that pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15162 no new effects will occur and no new mitigation measures would be required as a result of the recommended actions because there are no substantial changes proposed, no substantial changes in circumstances, and no new information of substantial importance regarding environmental effects of the project or of the sufficiency or feasibility of mitigation measures, and therefore the recommended actions are within the scope of the environmental review documents for this project [Environmental Impact Report (09EIR-00000-00003) adopted by the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors on February 4, 2014] and no new environmental document shall be prepared for this project.

**Summary Text:**

Approval of the \$75,000 Caltrans Cooperative Agreement would assist in providing funding towards the planning, design and/or construction of an approximate 1.5-mile segment of the California Coastal Trail through Paradiso del Mare (Paradiso). Paradiso is currently an undeveloped rural picturesque blufftop ranchland located on the Gaviota Coast one mile west of the City of Goleta. The Paradiso project will connect the current coastal trail gap between El Capitan State Beach and Goleta. The project also includes the development of an access road from Highway 101, a public parking lot, and multi-use trail bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad.

**Background:**

Caltrans will be replacing the existing Refugio Road bridges on Highway 101 with construction anticipated to occur from Fall 2024 to Spring 2028. The Caltrans project will also include removing the partial barrier to fish passage to enhance habitat conditions along Cañada del Refugio Creek, upgrading the bridge railing, and other improvements. To mitigate environmental impacts of the project, Caltrans is required to obtain permits and agreements from several agencies, including a coastal development permit (CDP) from the California Coastal Commission (CCC). One of Caltrans' CDP requirements is to provide the County \$75,000 towards design, planning, and/or construction of the Gaviota Coastal Trail segment through Paradiso del Mare (Paradiso).

Paradiso is currently an undeveloped rural picturesque blufftop ranchland located on the Gaviota Coast located approximately 7.5 miles east of the Caltrans project and approximately one mile west of the City of Goleta. The Paradiso trail project will provide important infrastructure for public access to a future 6.2 mile stretch of the Gaviota Coastal Trail along the eastern portion of the Gaviota Coast, filling a California Coastal Trail (CCT) gap between El Capitan State Beach and Goleta. Project implementation includes the development of an access road from the existing site entry off of Highway 101 to a new public parking lot for up to 24 vehicles, a public north-south trail and multi-use trail bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad and 1.5 miles of trail, including 1.1 miles of the CCT along the east-west length of this ocean front property, a loop trail and ocean view lookout points. The trails and bridge would be multi-use, accommodating pedestrians, bicyclists and equestrians.

An offer to dedicate the Paradiso public trails and areas for parking and the bridge was made by the property owner as part of the County and CCC approval of residential development on the property and was acknowledged by the Board April 6, 2016. The developer provided \$500,000 in funding to the Santa Barbara Trails Council (SBTC), a local not-for-profit, for planning, engineering and design of the Paradiso trail, parking and bridge project. The project is currently being managed by SBTC in conjunction with the County. A cooperative agreement between Caltrans and Santa Barbara County is required for Caltrans to provide the \$75,000 to the County to apply towards the planning, design and/or construction of the Paradiso project. The Paradiso project is currently in the planning and design stage and is estimated to be complete in late 2026. Construction of the project is estimated to cost \$2,450,000 and would commence once funding is secured and planning and design is complete.

**Risk:**

There is no anticipated risk from entering the Cooperation Agreement with Caltrans.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:** Budgeted: No

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State			\$ 75,000.00
Federal			
Santa Barbara Trails Council			\$ 500,000.00
Unfunded			\$ 1,875,000.00
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,450,000.00

The total cost of the Project is estimated to be \$2,450,000, including planning, design and construction. Funding in the amount of \$500,000 was provided by the residential developer to the Santa Barbara Trails Council, a local not-for-profit, that will expend project funds directly. The \$75,000 Caltrans mitigation funds will be used for planning and design, and possibly a portion of construction of the project.

**Staffing Impacts:**

None.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Caltrans mitigation Cooperative Agreement
- Attachment B: BJE No. 0010200

**Special Instructions:**

After Board action, please distribute as follows to Jill Van Wie, Community Services Department:

1. Minute Order
2. Cooperative Agreement