



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: September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Scott McGolpin, Director, Department of Public Works, 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Dacé B. Morgan, Deputy Director of Transportation, 568-3064

**SUBJECT:** **Harris Grade Road High Risk Rural Road (HR3) Project, Third and Fourth  
Supervisory Districts, Federal Project No. HRRRL-5951 (115) County Project  
No. 862273**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Approve the Project and Categorical Exemption pursuant to the County's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines for the Harris Grade Road High Risk Rural Roads (HR3) Project, County Project No. 862273.
- B. Authorize the Director of Public Works to proceed with right-of-way negotiations for the Harris Grade Road High Risk Rural Roads (HR3) Project, County Project No. 862273; and
- C. Authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise for construction bids for the Harris Grade Road High Risk Rural Roads (HR3) Project, County Project No. 862273.

**Summary Text:**

The Harris Grade Road High Risk Rural Roads Project is located along Harris Grade Road, approximately 1 mile south of State Route 135 (see picture below). It includes realignment of Harris Grade Road to increase the radius of two existing curves, slope grading and vegetation removal to increase sight distance and construction of paved and unpaved shoulders to create a recovery zone.

The proposed project will have two 11-foot paved traffic lanes, 2-foot paved shoulders and 4-foot unpaved shoulders. The embankment will be graded and sloped back away from the roadway to increase the sight distance. Drainage ditch will be constructed to control storm water and the existing culverts and headwalls will be replaced. The total project length is 1,050 ft and encompasses an area of approximately two acres. The traffic control plan for this project calls for one lane traffic control with flagging during the majority of the project, with periods of full roadway closure with a corresponding detour established to route traffic along Highway 1.



*Harris Grade HR3 Improvement Project Site*

Pursuant to the County's CEQA guidelines, the Department of Public Works has determined this project is exempt from further environmental review. Approval of this CEQA Notice of Exemption will indicate the Board of Supervisors' approval of this project and will commence the appeal period, pursuant to CEQA guidelines.

The "Notice to Contractors" will be published prior to the date set for the opening of the bids. Sealed proposals to construct this project will be received at the front counter, Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works, County Engineering Building, 123 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101, and at the North County Public Works Office, 620 West Foster Road, Santa Maria, California 93455, at a date to be determined, and will be opened publicly and read aloud.

Approval by the Board of Supervisors will allow the Public Works Department to proceed with right-of-way negotiations.

**Background:**

Over 60% of fatalities nationwide occur on rural roads. The High Risk Rural Roads Program was created to increase safety for the traveling public on rural roads, rural minor collectors and rural major collectors. At this location along Harris Grade Road, there has been a significant amount of multiple vehicle collisions as well as incidents with vehicles leaving the travel-way. In 2007, the County of Santa Barbara applied for and was awarded grant funding to increase the safety aspects of this segment of Harris Grade Road. This grant will allow the County to leverage 10% local money against a federal match of 90% to construction these improvements.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
Measure D	\$0.00		
Local (RSTP)	\$28,600.00		
Federal (HBP)	\$257,400.00		
Other:			
Total	\$ 286,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

**Narrative:**

The FY 2009-10 Preliminary Engineering expenditures are estimated to be \$41,000. Funds for these phases have been budgeted in Fund 0017, Organizational Unit 0600, Program 2830, and Account numbers 7460, 7650, and 7668.

The FY 2009-10 Right of Way costs are estimated to be \$40,000. Funds needed for this Fiscal Year expenditures have budgeted in Fund 0017, Organizational Unit 0600, Program 2830, and Account Numbers 7460 and 8100.

The FY 2009-10 Construction and Construction Engineering costs are estimated to be \$205,000. Funds needed for this Fiscal Year expenditures have budgeted in Fund 0017, Organizational Unit 0600, Program 2830, and Account Numbers 7510, 7668 and 7460.

Funding for all phases of this project will come from the High Risk Rural Roads Program (HR3), a Federal program administered by Caltrans which will reimburse on a 90% basis. The remaining 10% for the Preliminary Engineering and Environmental phases will be provided by Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP).

To preserve the competitive bidding process for Public Contracts, the construction funding will be disclosed after bids are opened and the Department approaches your Board for the award of a construction contract.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

None

**FTEs:**

None

**Special Instructions:**

Please provide a certified stamped Minute Order approving these actions to the Public Works Department, Transportation Division, Engineering Section, Attention: Beverly Cross.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: CEQA Notice of Exemption

**Authored by:**

Christian Doolittle, Project Manager, 739-8777

**cc:**