



Legislation Text

File #: 20-1408, **Version:** 1

Department of Transportation recommending the Board approve and authorize the Chair to sign the following agreements between the California Department of Transportation and County of El Dorado as related to the U.S. 50 / Camino Area Safety Project, CIP 71319/36104015:

- 1) Freeway Agreement 03-ED-050-PM 20.5/25.8 defining responsibilities of County roads Between East City Limit of Placerville and 0.5 Mile East of Snows Road Undercrossing; and
- 2) Project Specific Maintenance Agreement for the Pondorado Road Undercrossing Agreement ED-50-PM 23.81 to identify the maintenance responsibilities of County for the improvements of the project.

FUNDING: Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange Funds-Rural-EDCTC (52%), Traffic Impact Mitigation Fee - Hwy 50 (37%), State Transportation Impact Mitigation Fee (10%), Road Fund/Discretionary (1%). (State and Local Funds)

DISCUSSION / BACKGROUND

The need for safety improvements to the U.S. Highway 50 Camino Corridor have been identified as a priority by the County and Department of Transportation (Transportation), the El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC), and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The U.S. 50 / Camino Area Safety Project (Project) will provide the necessary safety improvements within this corridor. The Project's Project Study Report (PSR) identifies improvements including two proposed undercrossings of U.S. Highway 50 east of Camino Heights Drive, to improve traffic circulation and safety in the area, particularly during daily peak hour traffic. Also included is a concrete median barrier separating eastbound and westbound traffic. The completed Project is anticipated to result in substantial safety improvements reducing the number and severity of accidents in the area. The PSR included several alternative configurations and design of improvements that were determined during the environmental review and planning phase. The Project alternatives have been modified to avoid impacts to the significant commercial and agricultural businesses in the area.

All of the PSR alternatives studied included a U.S. 50 continuous concrete median barrier through the Camino area. Other features included in the Phase 1 project is to widen shoulders; include acceleration/deceleration lanes; repair culverts; a wildlife undercrossing; vehicle and pedestrian undercrossing near Camino Heights; extend Pondorado Road; and, lower the profile of Carson Road to access the proposed vehicle undercrossing. The Phase 1 project is estimated to be delivered by Caltrans within current allocated funds of \$52.69 million and started construction July 28, 2020. The Phase 1 project utilizes existing local roads to access the proposed undercrossing. The PSR also includes an unfunded future Phase 2 project for a larger undercrossing with interchange ramps at upper Carson Road. Transportation is currently working on the planning and design of a portion of the Phase 2 project, Camino Frontage Road - Pondorado Extension, CIP 72383/36105064. The Camino Frontage Road project will connect from the Phase 1 undercrossing to the El Dorado Trail and future Phase 2 interchange.

Freeway Agreement 03-ED-050-PM 20.5/25.8 will supersede Freeway Agreement dated December

9, 1963, Supplemental Freeway Agreement dated January 18, 1965, and that portion of Freeway Agreement dated October 26, 1959 between 0.2 mile east of Point View Drive Undercrossing and 0.5 mile east of Newtown Road Overcrossing within the Camino Corridor. A revised plan map noted as Exhibit A, has been prepared to show the effect of this Freeway Agreement to County roads. Cooperative Agreements for the Project have been approved by the Board and prepared for the early phases of the Project through construction with respect to the funding and construction of the Project. Cooperative Agreement 03-0651, which was approved by the Board on August 13, 2019, Legistar 19-0996, Item 13, defines the County's contribution of funds for the Construction Capital and Construction Support phases of the Project. This Freeway Agreement sets forth the control and maintenance of each of the relocated or reconstructed County roads, any frontage roads, and other local roads constructed as part of the Project.

Project Specific Maintenance Agreement for the Pondorado Road Undercrossing ED-50-PM 23.81 defines the roles and responsibilities for maintaining the Pondorado Road Undercrossing as part of the Project. Cooperative Agreements for this Project have been prepared for the early phases through construction with respect to the funding and construction of the Project. As noted in Cooperative Agreement 03-0651, a maintenance agreement is requested to further define maintenance responsibilities as a result of the Project. This Maintenance Agreement sets forth the County maintenance of vehicular and pedestrian undercrossings; roadway sections beneath the undercrossings, including the traveled way, shoulders, curbs, sidewalks, wall surfaces, drainage and lighting installations, and traffic service facilities; landscaped areas; and, bicycle paths as part of the Project. The undercrossing structure and U.S. 50 will be maintained by Caltrans.

ALTERNATIVES

- 1) The Board could choose to not approve either agreement. Transportation will work with Caltrans to revise the agreements as directed by the Board and return at a later date.
- 2) The Board could choose to cancel the Project. Canceling the Project will violate the previous Cooperative Agreements and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) already in place. Canceling the County's commitment to the Project would not relieve the County from having to pay for the previously agreed to County share (County road extension portion) of Caltrans planning and design cost on the Project.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

Cooperative Agreement 03-0638, which was approved by the Board on April 2, 2019, Legistar 19-0152, Item 29, defines the County's contribution of funds for the Plans, Specifications, and Estimate and Right-of-Way phases of the Project.

The MOU and Cooperative Agreement 03-0583, which was approved by the Board on December 15, 2015, Legistar 15-0217, Item 29, defines the County's contribution of funds for the Project Approval and Environmental Document phase and the respective intentions of both Caltrans and the County related to the proposed improvements of the Project.

OTHER DEPARTMENT / AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

County Counsel has reviewed and approved both agreements.

CAO RECOMMENDATION / COMMENTS

Approve as recommended.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact or change to Net County Cost associated with this item. The total cost of the Caltrans project is \$52,690,000. The County's portion of the Construction Capital and Support expenses generated by Caltrans is \$6,342,120 and is funded by Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant previously allocated to Caltrans.

Funding shown in Transportation's Capital Improvement Program is for a previous planning study and continuous Transportation staff oversight of the Caltrans project and is funded by a combination of Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange Funds-Rural-EDCTC (52%), Traffic Impact Mitigation Fee - Hwy 50 revenue (37%), State Transportation Impact Mitigation Fee (10%), and Road Fund (1%). The amount budgeted to be spent on the right-of-way and construction oversight of the project in FY 2020-21 is \$35,000.

The roads being built as a part of this Project and referenced in the Project Specific Maintenance Agreement will become a part of the County's road inventory. The Project will construct approximately 1,000 feet of new roadway and is estimated to cost \$2,400 per year to maintain. The Project is included in Transportation's 2020 Capital Improvement Program, which was approved by the Board on June 9, 2020, Legistar 20-0675, Item 54.

CLERK OF THE BOARD FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

- 1) The Clerk of the Board will obtain the Chair's signature on two (2) originals of both Agreements.
- 2) The Clerk of the Board will forward all originals of the Agreements to Transportation, Fairlane Engineering, attention Matt Smeltzer, for further processing.

TRANSPORTATION FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

- 1) Transportation will send all original copies of the partially executed agreements to Caltrans for signature.
- 2) Upon receipt from Caltrans, Transportation will return one (1) fully executed original of each agreement to the Clerk of the Board for its files.

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPONENT

Infrastructure, Public Safety

CONTACT

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Department of Transportation