

Regional Transportation Commission  
June 6, 2019 meeting

Issue: Highway 1 Bay-Porter/State Park Auxiliary Lanes Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans and Consultant Contract with Mark Thomas and Company, Inc.

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC):

1. Approve the attached resolution (Attachment 1) authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans contingent on RTC Legal Counsel review, for the environmental phase of the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes Project between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive, with the RTC as the implementing agency and Caltrans responsible for oversight.
2. Approve the attached resolution (Attachment 2) authorizing a professional engineering services contract with Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. for the environmental phase of the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes Project between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive.

#### BACKGROUND

The RTC, in cooperation with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), prepared a combined Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA) for the Tier I programmatic-level long range vision for the Highway 1 corridor and the Tier II (project level) 41st/Soquel Auxiliary Lanes and Bike/Ped Over crossing Project. The Final EIR/EA was certified in January 2019.

The RTC advanced and implemented the final design for the Highway 1 41st/Soquel Auxiliary Lanes and Bike/Ped Over crossing Project to achieve project readiness for funding opportunities. Measure D and STIP funds were used to advance design of the 41st/Soquel Auxiliary Lanes and Bike/Ped Over crossing project.

By advancing the design, this project is expected to be ready for construction in 2020, dependent on construction funding.

The completion of the Highway 1 programmatic level Final EIR/EA allows for various project-level (Tier II) environmental documents to move forward, including the two additional sets of auxiliary lanes between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and Park Avenue interchanges, and Park Avenue to State Park Drive interchanges as a single

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Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes PA/ED Caltrans Coop and Consultant Contract project. Completion of the project level environmental document will help to demonstrate project readiness for future state and federal funding applications.

RTC ACTION: The RTC authorized the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for the environmental phase of the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes Project between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive, with the RTC as the implementing agency and Caltrans responsible for oversight. The RTC also authorized a professional engineering services contract with Mark Thomas & Company, Inc. for the environmental phase of the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes Project between Bay Avenue/Porter Street and State Park Drive.

Chamber position: The Chamber supported Measure D in 2016 and has engaged with the RTC to move forward on the transportation projects to improve mobility in Santa Cruz County.