




May 7, 2018

To: Regional Planning and Highways Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 

Subject: Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation for the Transforming Beach Boulevard Study

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority proposes to enter into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Transportation to provide professional services for the Transforming Beach Boulevard Study.

Recommendation

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1648, in the amount of \$345,000, in reimbursements from the California Department of Transportation to the Orange County Transportation Authority for professional services for the Transforming Beach Boulevard Study.

Background

Beach Boulevard is a key north-south state highway operated by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). It generally carries daily traffic volumes between 26,000 and 83,000. The corridor is approximately 21 miles in length and traverses ten distinct local jurisdictions in Orange County and Los Angeles County. The 2010 Central County Corridor Major Investment Study recommended the Beach Boulevard corridor be further studied as part of the locally-preferred strategy (LPS). This was in recognition that additional widening and intersection grade separations may prove to be challenging to implement. Therefore, the LPS included an arterial corridor feasibility study for Beach Boulevard to further evaluate potential improvements to north/south mobility.

Discussion

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in partnership with Caltrans, is conducting the Transforming Beach Boulevard Corridor Study (Study).

The Study will identify multi-modal transportation options to enhance regional mobility and complement existing and planned land use along the corridor. Examples of preliminary objectives will include, but not be limited to:

- Improve multi-modal accessibility for existing and emerging major trip generators;
- Improve connectivity between existing and planned transportation hubs (e.g., transit stations, regional bikeways, etc.) and major trip generators;
- Add or enhance pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure, including enhanced safety features for pedestrians and bicyclists, improved access and facilities for non-vehicular facility users, and enhanced bus movement and amenities;
- Add or enhance intelligent transportation systems treatments, including traffic management strategies and traveler information strategies, etc.;
- Optimize the utilization and capacity of parallel arterial roadway facilities; and
- Provide for regional mobility and assess capacity needs along the corridor.

The Study will be based on a collaborative corridor planning process in coordination with Caltrans and the following local jurisdictions: Anaheim, Buena Park, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, La Habra, Stanton, Westminster, and the County of Orange. Current transportation deficiencies will be evaluated, as well as barriers that restrict multimodal use of the corridor. Refined alternative strategies will be molded into a long-range strategic vision that can be carried forward into subsequent project development processes.

There are also concurrent efforts to revitalize the corridor being led by the Renew Beach Boulevard Coalition (Coalition). The Coalition is comprised of elected officials and technical staff from agencies along the corridor. The focus of the Coalition has been on encouragement and educational activities to promote livable and healthy communities. The Study will complement these efforts by focusing on mobility planning for a comprehensive multi-modal transportation vision.

OCTA and Caltrans will be administering the Study in partnership. Caltrans has been awarded state planning and research grant funds for the Study and will reimburse OCTA to provide project management services that include procuring consultant services and managing the consultant contract. OCTA and Caltrans propose to enter into a cooperative agreement to define the specific roles and funding responsibilities for each agency with regard to conducting the Study.

Caltrans will be providing \$345,000 in grant funds. OCTA will match these funds with up to \$100,000 in state planning, programming, and monitoring (PPM) funds towards conceptual design, transportation analyses, and reporting. Additionally, through separate contracts, OCTA will lead the community outreach and traffic modeling efforts.

Fiscal Impact

The Study is included in OCTA's Fiscal Year 2018-19 Proposed Budget, Strategic Planning Division, Account 1531-7519-A4461-10X, and is funded with \$445,000 in local and state PPM funds. Caltrans will reimburse OCTA for these funds with state planning and research grant funds.

Summary

Staff requests Board of Directors' approval for the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-8-1648, in the amount of \$345,000, in reimbursements from Caltrans to OCTA for professional services for the Study.

Attachment

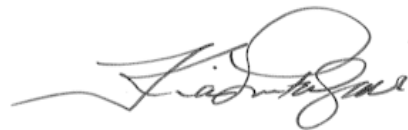
None.

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