




April 11, 2019

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 

Subject: Cooperative Agreement with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority for the Orange County Maintenance Facility Project

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority proposes to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority to define roles, responsibilities, and funding for the preliminary engineering and environmental phase of a rail maintenance facility on Orange County Transportation Authority-owned property in the City of Irvine.

Recommendation

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-9-1127 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Southern California Regional Rail Authority for the preliminary engineering and environmental stage of the Orange County Maintenance Facility.

Discussion

On June 30, 2015, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) purchased 21.3 acres from the City of Irvine (City) for the purpose of establishing a Metrolink rail maintenance facility in Orange County. The Orange County Maintenance Facility (OCMF) will be located on the 21.3-acre parcel owned by OCTA, adjacent to Marine Way, and located along the Metrolink Orange Subdivision between mileposts 183.5 and 184 in the City. The property is located directly northeast of the existing OCTA-owned railroad right-of-way and adjacent to Orange County's Great Park, as shown on Attachment A.

Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) is a five-county joint powers authority, created to build, maintain, administer, and operate the Metrolink commuter train system. SCRRA completed a project study report in January 2019, which defined the purpose and need, preliminary scope, and phasing for the OCMF. Existing Metrolink maintenance facilities are at full

capacity, and there is a need to perform maintenance on locomotives and rail cars to comply with safety and operations standards. Since a significant portion of the fleet will be operating in Orange County, a maintenance facility located along the Metrolink route would be the optimal location as it would reduce operating costs by limiting non-revenue moves to the existing SCRRA storage and maintenance facilities in the cities of Los Angeles and San Bernardino. The proposed maintenance facility will provide space and equipment to inspect, clean, and maintain cars and locomotives on a regular and efficient basis. Much of the inspection and maintenance activity is federally mandated and must be performed at specific intervals.

The OCMF will include train storage tracks, locomotive and car service platforms, pits for inspection and maintenance, a service building with overhead cranes. Service platforms will include facilities for inspection, fueling and sanding, toilet service, interior car cleaning, and a train washer. Additional facility components will include offices and facilities for crews, facility staff and management, parts storage, water treatment, parking access roads, and security. Connection tracks between the various service areas, storage locations, and the main tracks will be provided to assure optimal operational flexibility.

The Project requires a cooperative agreement between OCTA and SCRRA to define roles, responsibilities, scope, and funding for the preliminary engineering and environmental phase for the OCMF.

OCTA will be the lead on the preliminary engineering and environmental phase and will coordinate this work with SCRRA and the City, in accordance with the terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement between OCTA and the City. The effort for the environmental phase of the OCMF is estimated to be \$4,126,000, and will be funded through Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program grant funds granted by the California State Transportation Agency through SCRRA's Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) Program.

A separate item will be taken to the OCTA Board of Directors requesting the release of request for proposals to procure a consultant for preliminary engineering and environmental services related to the Project.

Fiscal Impact

The OCMF project will be included in the Rail Capital Program Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget, and OCTA will be the direct recipient of the SCORE funds.

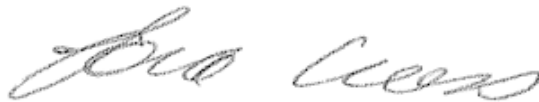
Summary

Staff requests Board of Directors' approval for the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-9-1127 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Southern California Regional Rail Authority for the preliminary engineering and environmental phase of the Orange County Maintenance Facility project.

Attachment

- A. Orange County Maintenance Facility Location Map

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