



February 3, 2025

To: Regional Transportation Planning Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Amendment to Agreement for Additional Design Services for State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 5 and State Route 91

Overview

On February 14, 2022, the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors authorized an agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc., for the preparation of plans, specifications, and estimates for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 5 and State Route 91. An amendment to the existing agreement is required for additional design services.

Recommendation

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. C-1-3643 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and HDR Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$1,238,501, for additional design services for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 5 and State Route 91. This will increase the maximum cumulative obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$10,348,602.

Discussion

The State Route 55 (SR-55) Improvement Project between Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 91 (SR-91) (Project) is part of Project F in the Measure M2 (M2) freeway program. In the updated Next 10 Delivery Plan, adopted by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) in November 2024, the Project is listed as one of the M2 freeway projects to be implemented through construction.

The Project will add one general purpose lane in both directions on SR-55 between I-5 and SR-91 and provide operational improvements on the southbound (SB) ramps at Katella Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. Specifically, an additional lane will be added to the SB SR-55 Katella Avenue on- and off-ramp, and the existing SB SR-55 Lincoln Avenue off-ramp will be relocated 1,300 feet to the south, next to the existing SB SR-55 Lincoln Avenue hook on-ramp. The plans, specifications,

Amendment to Agreement for Additional Design Services for State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 5 and State Route 91 *Page 2*

and estimates (PS&E) for the Project are currently being prepared by HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR).

Additional project scope has been identified, which requires further effort to complete the design on schedule. An amendment to the project design agreement is recommended for the following additional services:

Roadway Design

- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requested to incorporate several electrical components, such as closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras, poles, wiring, and controller cabinet equipment to be included in the Project to minimize construction conflicts and throwaway costs related to a Caltrans State Highway Operation and Protection Program project within the project limits.
- Caltrans requested additional freeway safety lights with electrical conduits be included along the median between Fourth Street and 17th Street to enhance safety.
- Due to the design survey showing conditions that will impact the existing drainage system, the Project needs to provide a new drainage system to collect stormwater and improve conditions in the freeway shoulder.
- Due to new federal requirements on sign panels, the existing overhead sign (OHS) panel and structures are required to be replaced with a new OHS panel and structure.
- The centerline of the freeway between Fourth Street and 17th Street is shifted to avoid right-of-way (ROW) along northbound (NB) SR-55. As a result, new bridge mounted signs are required for lane assignments on the sign panel to be aligned with the proposed lane configuration.
- Based on design surveys, additional wall design and modifications are required for the Project.
- The cities of Orange and Santa Ana requested aesthetics treatment for the retaining wall that represents the cities. The original scope did not include wall aesthetics; therefore, structure aesthetics plans will need to be developed.
- The Caltrans Ordinance for Model Water Efficiency has been updated, and the irrigation design requires an update to be compliant with the new requirements.
- Caltrans updates their standard plans and standard specifications every year, and roadway and structures designs need to conform to the new Caltrans standards. Design plans and specifications for this Project need to be updated and reviewed by various departments at Caltrans to obtain approval.

Amendment to Agreement for Additional Design Services for State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 5 and State Route 91 *Page 3*

Reports

- A supplemental project report will be developed to address miscellaneous changes and additional ROW needs.
- Based on the latest Caltrans requirements, the project improvements require a Ramp Metering Design Exception Report.

ROW Engineering Services

- The replacement of an OHS structure requires additional ROW acquisition. This effort will include the development of new ROW maps and documentation of the ROW needs.
- Additional ROW acquisition efforts are needed for the relocation of the SB Lincoln Avenue off-ramp, including the development of new ROW maps and documentation of the ROW needs.

Environmental Services

This Project requires environmental permits from regulatory agencies for construction. The original agreement did not include costs for the permit fees required for the processing of environmental permitting.

Procurement Approach

The original procurement was handled in accordance with OCTA's Board-approved procedures for architectural and engineering services, which conform to both state and federal laws. The original firm-fixed price agreement was executed on August 8, 2022, in the amount of \$9,110,101. This agreement has been previously amended as shown in Attachment A. It has become necessary to amend the existing agreement to add funds for additional design services.

OCTA staff negotiated the required level of effort with HDR to provide additional design services. Staff found HDR's cost proposal, in the amount of \$1,238,501, to be fair and reasonable relative to the negotiated level of effort. The proposed amendment will increase the total contract value to \$10,348,602.

Fiscal Impact

The additional funding for the Project is included in OCTA's Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget, Capital Programs Division, Account No. 0017-7519-FF102-0WZ, and will be funded with a combination of federal and local M2 funds.

Amendment to Agreement for Additional Design Services for State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 5 and State Route 91 *Page 4*

Summary

Staff requests Board of Directors' approval to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. C-1-3643 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and HDR Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$1,238,501, for additional design services for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 5 and State Route 91.

Attachment

- A. HDR Engineering, Inc., Agreement No. C-1-3643 Fact Sheet

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