

**NORTH COUNTY CORRIDOR
TRANSPORTATION EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY**

ITEM: 3a

SUBJECT:

Project Updates

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Discussion Only

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not determined

DISCUSSION:

Jacob's staff provides the following updates:

Public Outreach Update –

- Follow-up to the February 29, 2012 Community Focus Group (CFG) was made.
- Plans are underway for the next CFG meeting on June 13, 2012.
- Permit to Enter letters were sent via regular and certified U.S. Mail to property owners of parcels that require biological surveys extending beyond April 30, 2012,
- Pocket cards with project contact information were designed, produced and distributed for field staff and project team members.
- The contact log continues to be updated with information from team members.

Traffic Update –

The Draft Transportation System Analysis Report has been submitted for local agency review. The purpose of this report is to present the existing conditions relating to transportation in the study area and the state of local regulations relating to transportation that would apply to the proposed project. It describes the existing transportation infrastructure, including the roadway system, and bicycle, pedestrian and transit facilities. The study locations also identified, as well as methods used to evaluate roadway segments and their existing operational characteristics. This draft report is evaluating the various project alternatives under year 2030 and year 2050 conditions. Local review comments will be addressed and the updated Draft Report will then be submitted for Caltrans review.

Environmental Update –

Technical studies continue for the project. To date, fieldwork associated with Paleontology, geology and soils and the Phase I Initial Site Assessment are complete and draft technical studies have been submitted to Caltrans.

The majority of the project study area has been surveyed relative to biological, cultural and visual resources. Technical specialists from Caltrans and the project led regulators from the US Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on site visits in April to review project areas containing potential habitat for special status species and Corps jurisdictional wetlands.

Caltrans is the CEQA and NEPA lead agency for the North County Corridor State Route 99 to State Route 120 Project. Public comments collected at this meeting are not part of the CEQA or NEPA public review process and will not be made a part of the official public record.

Surveys for sensitive branchiopod and amphibian species as well as rare plant species are underway and will continue into 2013 to meet U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey requirements.

Property owners within areas affected by these surveys received letters in April requesting permission to enter their property prior to the expiration of letters sent in 2010 and 2011. The surveys will be non-invasive and will focus on identifying potential Corps jurisdictional waters and habitat for sensitive species. We have received responses from more than 1/3 of property owners granting permission to enter and more continue to come in daily.

This past winter came late and was well below average rainfall. The delayed winter will cause a delay in the ultimate schedule. This delay is being analyzed now. Additionally, the less than average rainfall may cause additional biological surveys to be needed next winter. This work is being continuously monitored to minimize overall project delays and costs.

Design Update –

Geometric review comments received from Caltrans have been addressed. Local agency input regarding the proposed responses has been incorporated. The Response to Comments and the updated Preliminary Geometric Plans are being prepared for submittal to Caltrans.

The preliminary geotechnical field work has been completed, and the Draft technical reports are now being prepared. Additional field work may be needed as other project design features are prepared.

Work on the right-of-way cost estimates and the Preliminary Structures Plans has started and will provide an estimated cost for each of the Project Alternatives and will be included in the Draft Project Report.

Work continues on the preparation of the Draft Project Report. This report will provide cost estimates for all proposed Project Alternatives for use in future funds programming.

Financial Update –

Shown below is a table that summarizes the contract amount*, expenditures and funding.

Original Contract Amount	\$5,800,000
Amended Contract Amount	\$3,268,765
Subtotal	\$9,068,765
Expenditures Invoiced and Paid as of DATE	\$6,020,536 (Remaining \$3,048,684)
FUNDING	
State Transportation Improvement Funds	\$6,200,000
Public Facilities Fee	\$4,900,000
Total	\$11,100,000