

**NORTH COUNTY CORRIDOR
TRANSPORTATION EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY**

ITEM: 3a

SUBJECT:

Project Update

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Discussion only

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not determined

DISCUSSION:

On September 18, 2013 the JPA Board approved a contract with Drake Haglan and Associates to complete Project Approval and Environmental Documentation (PA&ED) for the North County Corridor project. Since that time, the team has worked towards the interim milestone of delivering an Administrative Draft environmental document to Caltrans by August 2014.

To accomplish this interim milestone date, the team has been working with Caltrans and stakeholders to ensure that environmental and engineering field work will occur during the first half of 2014. The following is a summary of the ongoing tasks in support of this.

Permission to Enter Letters

Having access to an adequate sampling of the environmental study area is critical to conducting the necessary environmental and engineering studies this year and meeting the schedule.

Previously obtained permission to enter on properties for the environmental and engineering studies had expired and new letters were sent to property owners within the environmental study area on November 27, 2013. Access was requested to 960 parcels and currently, access has been granted to 385 parcels with only 18 parcels denying access. The team is following up with owners that have not responded and anticipate having access to an acceptable number of properties by February 2014.

Geometrics Update for NCC to Expressway

In July 2013, the PDT agreed to re-scope the project to an Expressway while still planning for and retaining the ability to go to a freeway in the future. In support of this, the team has worked with Caltrans to revise the alignments and geometrics to meet the Expressway standards.

As part of the geometric update, areas such as the eastern termini to State Route 120 were refined to better meet the purpose and need of the project and access/local circulation for parcels is currently being looked at.

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.

Traffic Operations Analysis

The traffic operations analysis has been initiated for the project and part of the analysis will look at how major intersections are controlled (ie: traffic signal, roundabout or interchange). Preliminary results of this analysis indicate that an interchange at Claribel Rd./Coffee Rd. and a roundabout at the eastern termini to State Route 120 may be desirable. The traffic operations analysis work is ongoing and Caltrans approval for the final analysis is anticipated to occur in May 2014.

Environmental

Environmental field study work is anticipated to begin later this month and continue through May 2014 with the exception of the California Tiger Salamander surveys which will occur when there is an adequate wet season as determined by the USFWS.

A meeting with the USFWS has been scheduled to discuss their specific requirements and to ensure that the NCC project meets their protocol requirements given the abnormal lack of rainfall the past few seasons.

It is anticipated that all other environmental technical studies will be completed and submitted to Caltrans in 2014 and the delay in conducting protocol surveys will not affect the interim milestone of delivering an Administrative Draft Environmental Document to Caltrans in August 2014.

Public Outreach

A public meeting is currently being scheduled for early March in Riverbank. The exact date and location will be set within the next week and invitations will be sent one month in advance of the meeting date.

Website updates with the latest alignment exhibits are anticipated to occur in early February.

Schedule

The following key milestones are anticipated for the project:

- March 2014 – Public Meeting
- August 2014 – Submit Administrative Draft Environmental Document to Caltrans
- March 2015 – Public Circulation of Draft Environmental Document
- May 2015 – Public Hearing for Draft Environmental Document
- January 2016 – Public Availability of Final Environmental Document
- July 2016 – Final Approval of Environmental Document

Financial Update

Jacobs Contract

Original Contract Amount	\$ 5,800,000.00
Amendments	\$ 3,750,224.00
Total Contract	\$ 9,550,224.00
Invoiced and Paid as of March 19, 2013	\$ 7,285,428.42
Final Invoice Paid on December 21, 2013	\$ 113,495.33
Amount Returned to Fund Balance	\$ 2,151,300.25

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Drake Haglan Contract

Original Contract Amount	\$ 2,999,576.00
Amendments	\$ 0.00
Total Contract	\$ 2,999,576.00
Invoiced and Paid as of January 10, 2014	\$ 162,323.18
Remaining Contract	\$ 2,837,252.82

Schedule Update

Contract Notice to Proceed	September 23, 2013
Contract Anticipated Completion	August 11, 2016
Contract Time Elapsed	11%
Contract Expended	5%