

# MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
County of Placer

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: June 26, 2007

FROM: KEN GREHM / RICK DONDRO *RWD*

SUBJECT: HWY 49 SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

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## ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to sign a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans (subject to County Counsel approval); authorize a local match of \$196,000 for the Hwy 49 project from County traffic impact fees, and request that PCTPA make a request to the California Transportation Commission for \$1.1 million in additional RTIP funding.

## BACKGROUND / SUMMARY

The Hwy 49 Safety and Operational Improvement Project is a \$12 million project to reduce congestion and improve the safety at several locations on Hwy 49 within the County and City of Auburn. Caltrans is responsible for the management, design, bidding and construction oversight for the project. The County was responsible for a local share (10%) of project costs. The project was approved in 1998, and is currently under construction. The construction project was awarded at \$6.1 million with a 10% contingency. The project cost has increased by \$3 million due to unknown utility conflicts and more than anticipated contamination discovered during construction.

After using the contingency funds, the project is over budget by \$2.3 million. The project was funded using state funds allocated by the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) called Regional Transportation Improvement Projects (RTIP) and a 10% local match from the County and City of Auburn. An amount of \$600,000 of the shortfall can be charged to the RTIP funding source without further action. Another \$600,000 can be funded internally by Caltrans for project support activities. This leaves a \$1.1 million shortfall that must be identified.

The Highway Safety Operations Project is a critical component of reducing congestion along Highway 49. The Department believes that the project needs to be constructed and an amended Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans will be required to allow the project to be completed. We recommend that the County pay its share of the local match for the additional costs which is \$196,000. This would be funded from the Auburn Bowman District of the Traffic Fee program which lists Highway 49 improvements as an eligible project. We also recommend that the Board request PCTPA to make a request to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for an allocation of additional RTIP funds to cover the additional costs and some contingency of approximately \$1,100,000. The PCTPA Board meets June 27, 2007 and the CTC meets July 27, 2007.

A portion of the work is within the City of Auburn and they are aware of the situation. We anticipate that the City of Auburn will be responsible for their portion of the local match (\$34,000), and any funding needed if the CTC does not allocate additional funding. If the California Transportation Commission does not approve the additional allocation of \$1,100,000, we will need to return to your Board with an alternative course of action.

We have requested that PCTPA and the County work with Caltrans to determine exactly what happened and what can be learned to minimize the risk of similar occurrences in the future.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

The amendments to agreements are not projects as defined by CEQA and therefore, are not subject to the provisions of CEQA (Section 21065, Public Resources Code). Caltrans has approved an environmental document for the project.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The County local share of \$196,000 would be funded from the Auburn Bowman District Traffic Fees.

# Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of: **ADOPT A RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC  
WORKS TO SIGN AN AMENDED COOPERATIVE  
AGREEMENT WITH CALTRANS FOR THE  
HIGHWAY 49 SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT SUBJECT TO  
COUNTY COUNSEL APPROVAL.**

Resol. No: \_\_\_\_\_

Ord. No:.....

First Reading:.....

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors  
of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held \_\_\_\_\_,  
by the following vote on roll call:

**Ayes:**

**Noes:**

**Absent:**

**Signed and approved by me after its passage.**

**Attest:  
Clerk of said Board**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman, Board of Supervisors**

\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer,  
State of California, that this Board approves and authorizes the Director of Public  
Works to sign an amended Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for the Highway  
49 Safety and Operational Improvement Project subject to County Counsel  
approval.

