

**NORTH COUNTY CORRIDOR
TRANSPORTATION EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY**

ITEM: 4a

SUBJECT:

Project Updates

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Discussion Only

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not Determined

DISCUSSION:

The Drake Haglan & Associates Team has continued to make progress in completing the Project Approval and Environmental Documentation (PA&ED) phase for the North County Corridor project. Since the last JPA Board report in January, the team has completed a number of milestones in the schedule and is on track to deliver an Administrative Draft environmental document to Caltrans by October 2014.

The following is a summary of the ongoing tasks in support of this.

Traffic

In September 2013, Caltrans Traffic implemented a new process called Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) to evaluate how intersections are controlled within the corridor (i.e. using a traffic signal, roundabout or interchange). A preliminary result of the ICE process resulted in the two roundabouts at the eastern termini to SR 120 as potentially warranted. The team is currently working with Caltrans and the PDT to validate the results.

The following key traffic milestones were accomplished this past quarter:

- The Traffic Forecasting was approved by Caltrans on March 24, 2014.
- An administrative draft Traffic Operations Report was submitted to the PDT on May 2, 2014

Environmental

The environmental field study work is 90% complete. Staff is presently compiling and analyzing the information from the field study before drafting the technical reports. With the submission of the administrative draft Traffic Operations Report, the team can now begin the Air Quality and Noise studies.

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.

Public Outreach

A public information meeting was held on March 6th in Riverbank. Invitations were mailed to over 1,700 residents within the study area and notification of the meeting was published in the Modesto Bee, Oakdale Leader, Riverbank News and Vida en el Valle. A press release was also sent to local media outlets in the region.

There were over 200 residents/property owners at the meeting as well as elected officials and representatives from Oakdale, Riverbank, Stanislaus County, Caltrans and the consultant team. Both verbal and written comments were taken and entered into the record of the meeting and these comments along with the summary will be posted on both the Caltrans and County websites in the next few weeks. Exhibits from the meeting were posted to the County's website the week following the meeting and the team is currently working with Caltrans staff to update their website.

A number of residents requested follow-up meetings at their properties and JPA staff along with the consultant team members have been conducting these visits.

Engineering

A number of geometric changes to the frontage and access road system have been made as a result of feedback from property owners at the public meeting and subsequent one-on-one field meetings with property owners and stakeholders. Refinement of the geometric drawings is in progress and is on schedule to be delivered to Caltrans in June.

Schedule

The following key milestones are anticipated for the project:

- October 2014 – Submit Administrative Draft Environmental Document to Caltrans
- April 2015 – Public Circulation of Draft Environmental Document
- May 2015 – Public Hearing for Draft Environmental Document
- February 2016 – Public Availability of Final Environmental Document
- August 2016 – Final Approval of Environmental Document

Financial Update

Original Contract Amount	\$2,999,576.00	
Amendments	\$ 390,932.00	Pending Approval
Total Contract	\$3,390,508.00	Pending Approval
Invoiced and Paid as of January 10, 2014	\$ 960,518.73	
Remaining Contract	\$2,429,989.27	

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