

**NORTH COUNTY CORRIDOR  
TRANSPORTATION EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY**

**ITEM: 3a**

**SUBJECT:**

Project Updates

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Information Only

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Not Determined

**DISCUSSION:**

The Drake Haglan and Associates Team has reached an important milestone in completing the Project Approval and Environmental Documentation (PA&ED) phase for the North County Corridor project. Since the last JPA Board memorandum that accompanied the cancellation of the September 17th Board meeting, the team has submitted all technical studies to Caltrans and completed an administrative draft copy of the Draft Environmental Document for Caltrans' review. With these submittals, the team is on track to release the draft environmental document to the public in the Spring of 2015.

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

Environmental

The environmental technical studies have been drafted and submitted to Caltrans for review and approval. The following is a status summary of the various reports/studies:

- Natural Environment Study (Biological Studies) – Submitted to Caltrans
- Jurisdictional Delineation – Submitted to Caltrans
- Historic Properties Survey Report – Submitted to Caltrans
- Archaeological Survey Report – Submitted to Caltrans
- Historic Resources Evaluation Report – Submitted to Caltrans
- Paleontological Study – Submitted and Approved by Caltrans
- Water Quality Study – Submitted and Approved by Caltrans
- Air Quality Assessment – Submitted to Caltrans
- Noise Study Report – Submitted to Caltrans
- Visual Impact Assessment – Submitted and Approved by Caltrans
- Hazardous Waste Assessment – Submitted and Approved by Caltrans
- Community Impact Assessment – Submitted to Caltrans
- Relocation Impact Report – Submitted to Caltrans

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.

It is anticipated that the team will have approval of the required technical studies in late November/early December.

The administrative draft environmental document was submitted to Caltrans on October 16<sup>th</sup> and will undergo a thorough review at Caltrans to ensure that the requirements of CEQA and NEPA have been met before releasing it to the public. It is anticipated that the Draft Environmental Document will be ready to release to the public in the Spring of 2015.

### Public Outreach

The NCC team has also made project presentations and provided status updates to the Oakdale Planning Commission, Oakdale City Council, Riverbank City Council, Modesto City Council and Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors. The team is planning on providing a similar presentation to the Stanislaus Council of Governments in December.

### Engineering

For highway projects with an estimated construction value of \$50 million or higher, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires a Value Analysis (VA) Study be performed. The purpose of the five day VA Study is to review the proposed project and identify measures that could improve the performance of the facility, reduce the future life-cycle costs or improve the delivery of the project through construction.

The VA team for the NCC project was comprised of experts in the fields of roadway and bridge engineering, construction, traffic operations and environmental. The JPA member agencies attended the first day of the VA Study and were given the opportunity to communicate each agency's concerns and constraints with the various alignment alternatives.

The recommendations of the VA team were presented to the Project Development Team (PDT) on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The PDT members submitted their recommendations to the Caltrans management team of the alternatives they accepted, conditionally accepted or rejected. The member agencies and Caltrans management team met on October 27<sup>th</sup> and reached concurrence on the list of recommended performance alternatives in Item 3b.

### Schedule

The following key milestones are anticipated for the project:

- May 2015 – Public Circulation of Draft Environmental Document
- June 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
Amended Contract Amount	\$ 390,932
Total Contract	\$3,390,508
Invoiced and Paid as of October 2014	\$2,292,669
Remaining Contract	\$1,097,839

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