



DATE: June 24, 2014

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Public Works

TITLE: **California Street/Escuela Avenue Improvements Study, Project 14-41 – Appropriate Funds and Authorize Professional Services Agreement**

RECOMMENDATION

1. Transfer and appropriate \$200,000 from the Construction/Conveyance Tax Fund to the California Street/Escuela Avenue Improvements Study, Project 14-41. (Five votes required)
2. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to approve a professional services agreement with Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. (Nelson\Nygaard) to provide professional services for the California Street/Escuela Avenue Improvements Study, Project 14-41, in an amount not to exceed \$341,000.

BACKGROUND

The California Street/Escuela Avenue area is a vibrant center and houses destinations frequented by a diverse population of the City. The area is home to the City's Rengstorff Park and Community Center, Aquatics Center, Senior Center, Teen Center, a day-care center as well as nearby schools and churches (see Attachment 1).

The City Council has funded a Complete Street analysis of the California Street/Escuela Avenue corridors to create a safe, comfortable, and convenient environment for all modes of travel, including pedestrian, bicycle, automobile, and transit. The California Street/Escuela Avenue Improvements Study will develop and evaluate alternatives for new street designs along California Street between Bryant Street and Showers Drive and Escuela Avenue from El Camino Real to Villa Street.

Recently, residents in the area have requested that the City also evaluate alternatives for improving the bicycle and pedestrian environment along Shoreline Boulevard between El Camino Real and Montecito Avenue. At the May 20, 2014 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Study Session, staff advised Council that a recommendation would be made to include the evaluation of Shoreline Boulevard to the California Street/Escuela

Avenue study due to the physical proximity of the streets and the similar issues to be evaluated.

The process will include community participation to identify values and priorities for the local neighborhoods and will address pedestrian and bicycle needs related to safety, lighting, and streetscape to create a more walkable, bikeable community.

ANALYSIS

On March 27, 2014, a Request for Proposals was released for the California Street/Escuela Avenue Complete Street Feasibility Study. Four proposals were submitted on April 24, 2014 from Nelson\Nygaard, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Hatch Mott MacDonald, and Whitlock & Weinberger Transportation, Inc. Nelson\Nygaard was deemed the most qualified to conduct the study based on the merits of their proposal, experience, and the qualifications of their subconsultants. Nelson\Nygaard will lead a team consisting of Mark Thomas & Company (civil engineering and cost estimating), TJKM (traffic engineering and analysis), Placeworks (Green Streets Lead), Flint Strategies (community outreach), and Freedman Tung + Sasaki (urban design).

The main elements of the Nelson\Nygaard scope of services include:

- Community outreach consisting of mini-workshops in the neighborhoods to engage as many residents as possible as well as collaboration with local organizations and dissemination of bilingual flyers and notices of meetings, e-mail blasts, and on-the-street interviews at key locations;
- Existing conditions data collection of traffic volumes, vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle; turning counts during peak hours, including left-turn counts at major driveways; analysis of future traffic volumes defined in the El Camino Real and San Antonio Precise Plans, 2030 General Plan, and Supplemental Environmental Impact Reports; historical collision reports, existing lighting, and public transit conditions;
- Development of alternatives incorporating green streets concepts such as stormwater management, vegetation/planting, accessibility, connectivity in conjunction with adjacent land uses to enhance traffic calming and improve the environmental performance of the corridors;

- Establishment of three alternatives based on opportunities and constraints identified during outreach. Alternatives may include elements such as road diets, travel lane width reduction, enhanced crossings for pedestrians, and buffered bicycle lanes; and
- Assessment of each alternative to determine its effectiveness and cost estimates for each based on preliminary design/renderings.

The consultant team will incorporate relevant aspects of the 2030 General Plan, the 2013 Pedestrian Master Plan, the Bicycle Transportation Plan (under development), the San Antonio Precise Plan (under development), the El Camino Precise Plan (under development) and the Shoreline Boulevard Transportation Corridor Study (under development by Nelson\Nygaard).

Nelson\Nygaard was asked to submit a proposal for an evaluation of Shoreline Boulevard between El Camino Real and Montecito Avenue. This analysis will be similar to that of California Street and Escuela Avenue, and will include pedestrian and bicycle improvements and possibly lane reductions. Three alternatives for Shoreline Boulevard will also be prepared.

The fee breakdown for the studies is as follows:

Services	California Street/ Escuela Avenue	Shoreline Boulevard	Total
Basic Services	\$160,000	\$161,000	\$321,000
Additional Services	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
Total	\$170,000	\$171,000	\$341,000

Because the original project did not include Shoreline Boulevard, the recommended actions also include additional funding of \$200,000 for the additional analysis.

The Complete Street alternatives will be presented to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the City Council for feedback and direction. Cost estimates and funding options for the alternatives will be used to recommend a phasing and implementation plan for Council approval. The detailed scope of services description is provided as Attachment 2.

If the recommended actions are approved by Council, the consultant team can begin preliminary work in July 2014 and complete the study by late 2015.

FISCAL IMPACT

California Street/Shoreline Boulevard Complete Street Feasibility Study, Project 14-41, is currently funded by the Construction/Conveyance Tax Fund in the amount of \$250,000 and with the recommended appropriation of \$200,000, the new project budget would be \$450,000. The Construction/Conveyance Tax Fund has a sufficient balance available for the recommended actions.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Do not appropriate additional funds, authorize the City Manager or his designee to approve a professional services agreement with Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. to provide professional services for the California Street/Escuela Avenue Improvements Study, Project 14-41, only in an amount not to exceed \$175,000. Direct staff to create a new capital project and issue a separate Request for Proposals for the Shoreline Boulevard Complete Street Feasibility Study.
2. Do not approve the recommended agreement and direct staff to issue a new Request for Proposals for a combined California Street and Shoreline Boulevard Complete Street Feasibility Study.
3. Do not proceed with studying Shoreline Boulevard at this time.
4. Provide other direction.

PUBLIC NOTICING

Agenda posting and e-mailed notices to the SWAN and OMOVNA neighborhoods as well as Safe MV, Great Streets, and Jackson Park community groups.

Prepared by:

Rey S. Rodriguez
Senior Project Manager

Approved by:

Michael A. Fuller
Public Works Director

Daniel H. Rich
City Manager

RSR/MAF/3/CAM
905-06-24-14CR-E

Attachments: 1. Study Area
2. Scope of Services

cc: APWD – Solomon, TBM, PCE – Au, CTE, AAI – Grimm, F/c