



THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES
Executive Director's
Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2017

FROM: ENGINEERING

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ MEASURE R FUNDING AGREEMENT NO. 920000000MR312.32 BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR THE STATE ROUTE 47/VINCENT THOMAS BRIDGE AND FRONT STREET/HARBOR BOULEVARD INTERCHANGE RECONFIGURATION PROJECT

SUMMARY:

Staff requests the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board) adopt a resolution approving the Measure R Funding Agreement No. 920000000MR312.32 (Agreement) in the amount of \$540,000 between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency (LACTMA) for the Project Approval/Environmental Documentation (PA/ED) of the State Route 47/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration Project (Transmittal 1).

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines as determined by the Director of Environmental Management;
2. Approve the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) Measure R Funding Agreement No. 920000000MR312.32 in the amount of \$540,000 between the Harbor Department and LACMTA;
3. Authorize the Executive Director and the Board Secretary to execute and attest to said Agreement on behalf of the Board;
4. Upon execution of the LACMTA Measure R Funding Agreement by the Executive Director, authorize the Board Secretary to mail three originals of the Agreement to Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-22-3, Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952; and
5. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

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DISCUSSION:

Background and Context

The Harbor Department continues its commitment to improve transportation safety and operation in and around the Port of Los Angeles (Port) complex. Currently, westbound SR- 47 traffic and southbound I-110 traffic destined for the West Basin and San Pedro Waterfront areas both exit at Harbor Boulevard. Significant nonstandard weaving conditions exist as traffic travels through the Harbor Boulevard off-ramp. Nonstandard merging also exists on the eastbound SR-47 on-ramp (from Harbor Boulevard) as traffic approaches the Vincent Thomas Bridge (VTB). Also, traffic routinely backs up onto both ramps during peak traffic periods as a result of the two freeways (I-110 & SR-47) terminating at the same point.

To improve this operational deficiency, the Department proposes to relocate the existing westbound SR-47 off-ramp to the north of the VTB at Front Street and Knoll Drive. Relocating the off-ramp to north of VTB will separate traffic exiting from both freeways into two different exits (Harbor Boulevard/Swinford Street and Front Street/Knoll Drive), and thereby improve the movement of traffic through the interchange that is destined for the cruise terminal, San Pedro Waterfront development and other recreational facilities (Transmittal 2).

On February 19, 2015, the Board approved Agreement 15-3311 between the Harbor Department and the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCOG) through Resolution No. 15-7757, for a Measure R grant in the amount of \$1,000,000. Due to recent changes to Measure R grant policies and procedures, and at the request of LACMTA and SBCOG, the grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 was divided between the following two phases: 1) Project Study Report (PSR) in the amount of \$460,000 and 2) PA/ED in the amount of \$540,000. The agreement between the Harbor Department and SBCOG, approved by the Board on February 19, 2015, will continue to cover the grant funds for the PSR phase of the project. This new Agreement between the Harbor Department and LACMTA will cover the grant funds for the PA/ED phase of the project. Total project grant funds will remain at \$1,000,000.

On November 17, 2015, the Board approved Cooperative Agreement 07-5049 between the Harbor Department and Caltrans in the amount of \$150,000, for the Project Study Report (PSR) phase of the project.

On November 17, 2015, the Board awarded Agreement 15-3369 in the amount of \$999,000 to AECOM through Resolution No. 15-7888, to provide engineering and environmental services for the project.

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On April 27, 2017, the LACMTA Board programmed \$540,000 in Measure R grants in Fiscal Years (FY) 2016/17. The total funds designated for PA/ED of the project are \$540,000. LACMTA's Measure R grant is a reimbursement grant, and LACMTA requires the Harbor Department to execute the Agreement between the City of Los Angeles and LACMTA to seek reimbursement on a quarterly basis. As required by the Measure R grant, LACMTA will pay up to \$540,000 of the project's PA/ED costs. The Harbor Department is not required to provide matching funds for this grant, and the acceptance of these outside agency funds does not commit the Harbor Department to construct nor complete the design of this project, for which the total cost to completion is estimated at \$27,800,000. By completing the PA/ED phase of the project, the Harbor Department will be eligible to seek additional grant funds to construct the project, contingent upon approval by the Board.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is approval of a funding agreement between the Harbor Department and LACMTA. This action is limited to the administrative approval for the distribution of funds. Individual projects implemented with the use of funding will be subject to separate environmental review by the lead agency with jurisdiction over the project. Therefore, as an administrative activity, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed Agreement memorializes the framework for the transfer of approximately \$540,000 in Measure R grant funds from the LACMTA to the Harbor Department on a quarterly basis for the State Route 47/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration Project. The LACMTA grant amount covers the total Environmental Study phase of this project. There is no cost share requirement for this grant. The Harbor Department will be applying for future grant funds in order to cover the remaining construction costs of this project. Construction timing details and cash flows for the proposed project will be discussed in more detail at such time that the construction award for this project is brought before the Board for approval. This project is funded within the Harbor Department's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget. The associated Work Order and Job Nos. are 2533400 and 635000, respectively.



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CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney approves the Agreement as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTAL:

1. Funding Agreement No. 920000000MR312.32 Between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the State Route 47/Vincent Thomas Bridge and Front Street/Harbor Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration Project
2. Site Map – Harbor Blvd/Hwy 47 Improvements – Alternative No. 1 Single Ramp Exit from Hwy 47 to Front St.

FIS Approval:  (initials)
CA Approval:  (initials)



DAVID M. WALSH, P.E.
Chief Harbor Engineer



ANTONIO V. GIOIELLO, P.E.
Deputy Executive Director

APPROVED:



EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director

Author: S. Aziz

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