



Agenda Date: 12/18/2007
Agenda Placement: 6N

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Don Ridenhour for Robert Peterson - Director
Public Works
REPORT BY: Don Ridenhour, Asst Director, Public Works/Asst District Engineer, 259-8321
SUBJECT: Cooperative Agreements for Highway 121 Improvements

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests the following actions related to the improvements on Duhig Road and Highway 121:

1. Approval of Budget Transfer No. 16 appropriating \$1,159,000 in the General Fund Roads budget with offsetting revenues from private property owners (4/5 vote required);
2. Approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign Cooperative Agreements with Dorothy Hageman (Assessor's Parcel No. 047-070-022) for a 49.6% contribution and Robert Lee Hudson (Assessor's Parcel No. 047-070-016) for a 50.4% contribution toward the actual costs of the betterments at this location including County staff time for the term of December 18, 2007 through June 30, 2008; and
3. Approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans providing payment for adding turn pocket improvements to State Highway 121 between Duhig Road and Sonoma County Line.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public Works has been facilitating efforts between private property owners and Caltrans for added improvements to a planned Highway 121 widening and curve alignment project in the Carneros area. Dorothy Hageman and Lee Hudson have been negotiating with Caltrans to add left turn pockets to Highway 121 as part of a larger Highway curve realignment and widening project west of Duhig Road. These added turn pockets will provide for safer turning movements into their property and will provide added safety benefits to the State highway. The property owners have negotiated the price to be paid for these improvements, and have dedicated the land and necessary easements for the additional widening. Caltrans is not able to complete this transaction directly with the private property owners for these added improvements, and requires a cooperative agreement with the County to be reimbursed for the costs associated with the turn pocket improvements. Cooperative agreements with Ms. Hageman and Mr. Hudson are required to facilitate the transfer of construction costs from the property owners through the County to the State. In essence the County is serving as a financial intermediary between CalTrans and the property owners. A budget transfer is required to provide appropriation authority.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	Staff costs and construction costs associated with working with Caltrans and developing the cooperative agreements with the State and the private property owners are being paid for by Ms. Hageman and Mr. Hudson and will result in additional revenue in the Public Works and County Council budget units. Budget Transfer No. 16 establishes an appropriation in the General Fund Roads budget (1000 30000) for \$1,159,000 for the payments to Caltrans with 100% offsetting revenue from the private participants. Although the appropriations will be established in a general fund budget unit there will be no impact to general fund money as this will strictly be a pass-through action.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Entering into these cooperative agreements with the State and property owners provides for improvements to State Highway 121 that will make the highway safer for the traveling public and reduce the chances of accidents and potential injury due to vehicles entering and exiting the Hageman and Hudson properties. All costs are being paid for by the private property owners.
Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	None. All improvements will be maintained by Caltrans as part of the States highway facilities at no cost to the County.
Consequences if not approved:	The additional improvements adding turn pockets to the Hageman and Hudson parcels will not be constructed resulting in driveway access points to the State highway that are not as safe as the proposed improvements.
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action has been determined to be Categorically Exempt from CEQA by Caltrans as part of their environmental review document adopted August 25, 2005. The County has determined the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and is categorically exempt according to Section 15300 of the CEQA Guidelines and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Caltrans is currently in the final design phase of a highway widening and curve realignment project on Highway 121 beginning at the intersection with Duhig Road and extending west to the passing lane on the Highway near the Napa/Sonoma County line. Two property owners (Dorothy Hageman and Lee Hudson) have been in negotiations with Caltrans to include left turn pockets on the highway at their driveway entrances. These turn pockets will be constructed at the property owners expense and will be included in the Caltrans construction project. Public Works

has been involved in the negotiations with Caltrans as the State will only complete jointly funded cooperative projects with the local agency, and not individual property owners. The County must enter into a cooperative agreement with Caltrans, and also enter into cooperative agreements with the private property owners to facilitate payment of the improvements from the property owners to the State.

The Board accepted the dedication of property and easements for the improvements on March 27, 2007 and Public Works is now requesting the Board authorize the Chair to execute Cooperative Agreements with the State and private property owners to provide for payment of the improvements. These cooperative agreements allow the County to recover staff and construction costs associated with State highway improvements and provide a method for the private property owners to reimburse Caltrans for the added improvement costs. The added turn pockets to the Highway 121 improvements will provide additional safety to vehicles traveling the highway and entering and exiting the Hageman and Hudson properties. The improvements will become part of the State highway system obligating Caltrans to maintain the turn pockets as part of its transportation facilities.

A budget transfer is required to provide appropriation authority.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi