



## MEMORANDUM

### City of Angels City Council

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**Date:** March 18, 2025

**To:** City of Angels City Council

**From:** Amy Augustine, AICP – City Planner

**Re:** RESOLUTION: 25-14 REQUESTING REALLOCATION OF FY 24/25 AND FY 25/26 CMAQ FUNDING FOR THE ANGELS CREEK TRAIL

**Recommendation:**

Adopt Resolution 25-14.

**Background and Discussion:**

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program ([23 U.S.C. 149](#)) was established by the 1991 Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). CMAQ funds are directed to transportation projects and programs which contribute to the attainment or maintenance of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in nonattainment or air quality maintenance areas for ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter (PM).

Under the CMAQ program, Caltrans, through the Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG), requests projects to be funded under the federal program. CCOG allocated \$906,603 in CMAQ funds to the City in FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 towards constructing Phase 1 of the Angels Creek Trail (i.e., from Kurt Drive to Greenhorn Creek along Angels Creek and Finnegan Lane).

Due to delays in gaining approvals for the environmental document from the State of California for the Angels Creek Trail (e.g., for cultural resources issues) coupled with a change in project management at Dewberry, the project was delayed. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental documentation for the trail was completed in 2024. An updated project scope and timeline was presented by Dewberry to the City Council at the February 18, 2025, meeting where an extension to Dewberry's contract was approved to allow for the trail project's federal environmental documentation (National Environmental Policy Act) and project design to be completed.

Consistent with Dewberry's new scope and timeline, the City will be unable to commence project construction in FY 24/25 and FY 25/26. Therefore, CCOG has asked that the CMAQ funding be reallocated to another project. At such time as the City is ready to proceed with constructing the Angels Creek Trail, CCOG will reallocate the CMAQ funds back to the City.

Please note that the City has additional CCOG-allocated funding for the Angels Creek Trail Project in the amount of \$446,000 for FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 through the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP). That funding will be applied towards completing a portion of Dewberry's revised project scope (NEPA completion and project design).

Finally, it is noted that funding for right-of-way (ROW) acquisition has neither been requested nor allocated at this time and will be necessary before the project can proceed with construction in locations requiring ROW acquisition. Staff are currently working with CCOG to identify funding for ROW

acquisition. At this time, the total cost of ROW acquisition is unknown (pending final project design). ROW acquisition funding will be discussed under a separate agenda item at a future date.

**Strategic Plan Alignment:**

**A4 Economic Development** *Promote a wide variety of economic opportunities consistent with the city's social, cultural, environmental, and aesthetic resources*

**C7 Public Facilities and Services** *Maintain or increase the levels of service currently available within Angels Camp for park facilities and infrastructure.*

The Angels Creek Trail is a signature ingredient in the City's economic development strategy and as a contributor to the city's park facilities and infrastructure. Approval of the proposed project will assist in protecting funding for the project.

**Financial Impact:**

\$906,603 in CMAQ funds will be reallocated from the City of Angels to a local transportation project for FY 24/25 and 25/26 (i.e., "lend" the money to another project). When the City is ready to proceed with Angels Creek Trail construction; CCOG will reallocate the CMAQ back to the City. The net financial impact to trail funding will be zero.

**Environmental Evaluation:**

The Angels Creek Trail Phase 1 Project was evaluated in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and state and city guidelines for implementation of CEQA pursuant to a certified Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH# 2023050036). The proposed action is within the scope of that environmental document. Therefore, no additional environmental review is necessary.

**Attachments:**

- A. Resolution 25-14
- B. Updated Angels Creek Scope and timeline (cost pending)