



MEMORANDUM

City Council

Date: July 1, 2025

To: City Council

From: Amy Augustine, City Planner

Re: Adopt Resolution 25-38 Approving the allocation of up to \$250,000 in Traffic Impact Mitigation Fees towards acquiring Foundry Lane Access off SR 4

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution 25-38.

Background/Discussion:

Traffic Impact Mitigation Fees (TIMF) are charged to new development to offset a portion of the costs of capital improvement projects for new circulation (road) improvements associated with new development. TIMFs do not fund road maintenance. The current balance of the TIMF fund is approximately \$1,600,000.

On June 3, 2025; the City Council adopted the list of proposed road improvements for the current Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) to guide new roadway capital improvements and provide the basis for updating Traffic Impact Mitigation Fees. The top-listed project on the list is Foundry Lane.

SR 4 is currently access-restricted in the vicinity of Foundry Lane. Access requires the California Transportation Commission to “Decertify” SR 4 at the Foundry Lane location to allow this access. Since 1989, the City has been pursuing access off SR 4 for Foundry Lane for the extensive circulation, safety, and economic development potential for the City associated with Foundry Lane. Recently, Caltrans completed an appraisal—the next-to-the-last-step before decertification can occur. The Caltrans appraisal assesses the increased value of granting access off SR 4 for a 94’ wide encroachment at \$492,800.

The landowner of the first parcel to be developed off SR 4 along Foundry Lane is required to pay this amount to Caltrans to complete decertification. Without the decertification and access off SR 4, Foundry Lane will not exist. The landowner requested a partnership with the City to pay approximately half of the appraised value (\$246,400). Use of the TIMF to pay approximately half the appraised value will secure access off SR 4 for Foundry Lane assisting the City in achieving its highly anticipated circulation, safety, and economic development goals.

Strategic Plan Alignment

B5 Land Use Provide a well-organized and orderly development pattern that maintains and enhances Angels Camp’s social, economic, cultural, environmental, and aesthetic resources while managing growth so that adequate facilities and services can be provided in pace with development.

Environmental

The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and state and city guidelines for implementation of said act pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the state guidelines, the Common Sense/General Rule exemption which states that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is subject to CEQA. The project also is exempt from Section 15145 which states that CEQA should not involve speculation where insufficient information is available. Projects that may be associated with decertification of Foundry Lane have yet to be defined sufficiently to avoid speculation of potential impacts. Potential impacts of Foundry Lane and projects associated with Foundry Lane construction will be analyzed once specific projects applications and Specific Plans are submitted.

Financial Impact

The entire cost will be paid for from the City's Traffic Impact Mitigation Fee fund (See attached budget amendment)

Attachment:

Resolution 25-98