



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Jeff Hart, Director of Public Works
DATE: October 4, 2022
SUBJECT: **First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Mark Thomas for Engineering Services and Grant Assistance**

Background and Analysis:

On September 7, 2021, City Council approved an agreement for professional services (PSA) with Mark Thomas for engineering services related to the Potrero Interchange. The initial agreement was to perform an analysis that would assess the elimination of the direct east bound and west bound on ramps in order to yield significant cost savings, while still remaining a fully functional interchange with minor modifications. This process is pending Caltrans final approval. Once approval is obtained, staff intends to bring forth a future amendment to City Council to authorize the current engineer of record (Mark Thomas) to revise the final plans and specifications to remove the direct on-ramps entirely.

On September 14, 2022, the Southern California Association of Governments sent a "Call For Projects" to be potentially funded by the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (SB 1) via the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP). Due to the complexity, timeliness, and resources needed to prepare a quality grant application, staff is recommending that City Council authorize a contract amendment to the existing PSA with Mark Thomas to assist the City in preparing the application which is due November 18, 2022. Mark Thomas has the familiarity, experience, and resources available to complete an application within the short time frame.

The current funded amount for the Phase 2 Interchange (2016-003) is \$6,500,000 which is well short of the anticipated funding needed to deliver the project. It is projected that \$353 million will be available for regional corridor targets in the Los Angeles/Inland Empire region. Should the City be successful in being awarded the grant, staff would be able to target beginning construction in 2023.

The Pass Zone 5-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which was approved on July 29, 2021, allocated \$6,500,000 to the Potrero Phase 2 project, of which \$250,000 was attributed to plans, specifications, and engineering which will be utilized to cover the cost for the expenses associated with this contract amendment. Staff is requesting City Council authorize this contract amendment in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost of preparing the staff report is estimated to be \$350. The funding for this contract amendment would be paid from available reimbursement funds from the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), which was approved along with the original PSA on July 20, 2021.

Recommended Action:

Approve the First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Mark Thomas in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 for additional Engineering Services and Grant Assistance.

Attachments:

- A. First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Mark Thomas