

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: August 24, 2023
From: Public Works Department
Subject: Stockton Bridge Debris Mitigation Project Funding

Recommended Action: Adopt a resolution authorizing the acceptance of \$500,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) for the Stockton Bridge Debris Mitigation Project, amending the FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the grant agreement on behalf of the City.

Background: The Stockton Avenue Bridge, constructed in 1934, is a beam bridge with three openings and two support piers. It spans Soquel Creek and is the furthest downstream bridge of the Creek. Soquel Creek is prone to large woody debris, which historically causes flooding by blocking bridges. Unlike the upstream bridges at Soquel Drive and Highway 1, the Stockton Avenue Bridge has smaller spans, increasing the risk of debris accumulation and flooding.

Due to its vulnerability, the Stockton Avenue Bridge is identified as a critical at-risk facility in the City's 2013 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). In 2016, a due diligence memorandum was completed to assess the potential impact of debris flow on the bridge during a catastrophic flooding event (Attachment 1). The memorandum recommended the installation of debris fins to guide debris through the larger center span of the bridge.

The development of a debris mitigation project for the Stockton Avenue Bridge involves conducting a feasibility study and detailed site study, including a hydraulic model, evaluation of alternative debris control measures, consideration of permits, infrastructure requirements, and cost analysis. The adopted FY 2022-23 budget allocated \$350,000 for the initial phase of the "Stockton Bridge Reinforcement Project."

With support from State Senator John Laird, State Assembly Bill 102 was passed this summer, which allocated \$500,000 for this project.

Discussion: To accept the funding, which will be administered by the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR), the City Council must adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept the funding and sign a grant agreement with CDWR.

The grant funding will cover planning, permitting, design and construction costs associated with the project. In the unlikely event the project costs exceed the awarded amount, the City may solicit a budget amendment through CDWR and request additional funding. This project is tentatively scheduled for construction in Spring of 2025.

Fiscal Impact: This will increase State Grant Funding in the FY 2023-24 Capital Improvement Program Adopted Budget by \$500,000. The adopted FY 2022-23 budget allocated \$350,000 for the initial phase of the "Stockton Bridge Reinforcement Project," bringing total project funding to \$850,000. There is no match associated with this grant funding. There are no fiscal impacts associated with the recommended action.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): This action does not constitute a "project" pursuant to Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act.

Attachments:

1. Due Diligence Memorandum (2016)
2. Resolution
3. Agreement

Report Prepared By: Jessica Kahn, Public Works Director

Reviewed By: Julia Moss, City Clerk

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager