



STAFF REPORT
8/26/2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Andrew Simmons, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer

PREPARED BY: Brianna Greenwood, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: Reimbursement Agreement for Preliminary Engineering Services with the Union Pacific Railroad Company for the Connect Coachella Project, City Project ST-138.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize City Manager to execute a reimbursement agreement for Preliminary Engineering Services with the Union Pacific Railroad Company in the amount of \$40,000 for the Connect Coachella Project, City Project ST-138.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact. This project has been included in the FY 26/27 CIP budget.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Coachella was awarded State funding for Design and Right-of-Way Services for the Active Transportation Program (ATP) Connecting Coachella Project ST-138. The total funds are in the amount of \$2,529,412.00, with an amount of \$2,150,000 in grant funding and \$379,412.00 in local match. The project has completed the PA&ED phase and is currently in the R/W and PS&E phase.

The proposed project will add 3.6 miles of a Class I multi-modal path along Grapefruit Blvd from Avenue 48 to Avenue 54, 2.6 miles of Class II bike lanes along Avenue 54 from Van Buren to City limits, 1.4 miles of sidewalk, and 14 crosswalk enhancements. The project will connect to the Coachella Valley Link Multi-Use Trail (CV Link) and the Arts and Music Line Connect Multimodal Pathway. Infrastructure improvements also include a roundabout; lighted bollards; 6 to 12-foot landscape buffer with shade trees; high-visibility crosswalks; enhanced signals; and raised medians and ADA ramps to improve pedestrian/bicycle safety at crossings. New shade structures, benches, drinking fountains, bike repair kiosks, trash cans, and art installation will enhance the path as well.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The project is proposing a pedestrian/bicycle crossing along Avenue 54 over the railroad to connect to the CV Link. This would require work to be done by the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to the existing at grade crossing. The City Engineering team is working with the Union Pacific Railroad Company to ensure the proposed improvements are per their design requirements. The proposed reimbursement agreement would include review of construction documents, project design, preparation of project estimate and construction agreement. Staff recommends approving the reimbursement agreement to continue to work with UPRR and prevent any delays.

CONCLUSION:

Authorize City Manager to execute a reimbursement agreement for Preliminary Engineering Services with the Union Pacific Railroad Company in the amount of \$40,000 for the Connect Coachella Project, City Project ST-138.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Reimbursement Agreement