

Dillon Road Joint Powers Authority

*Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
City of Coachella
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians*

STAFF REPORT

3/7/2024

TO: Dillon Road Joint Powers Authority Chair and Board Members

FROM: Andrew Simmons, City Engineer, City of Coachella

SUBJECT: Dillon Road Joint Powers Authority Update.

BACKGROUND:

In January of 2020, the Dillon Road Joint Powers Authority authorized Resolutions DR-2020-01 and DR-2020-02, which authorized the City of Coachella to apply for Highway Bridge Project (HBP) funding and to prepare National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental documents.

The City obtained a modified budget with the Coachella Valley Association of Governments to fund 100% of grant application and NEPA environmental costs. The City contracted with Angenious Engineering to complete the HBP grant applications and environmental work on behalf of the JPA.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Working in conjunction with Angenious Engineering, Caltrans and the relevant stakeholders of the project, the City of Coachella completed the NEPA clearance process in April of 2023. The Dillon Road Replacement Project now has full CEQA and NEPA clearance.

In addition, the City successfully obtained HBP funding for a project totaling \$49,375,000, which includes \$3.5 million in design costs, \$2.5 million in right-of-way costs, and \$43.375 million in construction costs. However, Caltrans District 8 staff had raised concerns relative to the allocation and eligibility of HBP funds to the project due to unresolved ownership issues relative to the bridge. The City worked with the Tribal partners and Caltrans to resolve the ownership issues relative to the bridge structure. As of February 2024, the City has officially received direction from Caltrans that the project has been deemed eligible for HBP funding.

In order to advance the project, the City will be required to submit a project authorization form with Caltrans Local Assistance to allocate HBP funds for design and right-of-way for the current fiscal year. Once the HBP program managers authorize the funding for the current fiscal year, the City will work with outside agencies, including the County of Riverside and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments to develop a comprehensive project management and cooperative funding plan that will be presented to the JPA for consideration at a future JPA meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Per the approved FTIP currently on file with Caltrans, the following project costs are anticipated:

	HBP Funding	Local Funding	Total
Plans and Engineering	\$2,800,000	\$700,000	\$3,500,000
Right-of-Way	\$2,000,000	\$500,000	\$2,500,000
Construction	\$34,700,000	\$8,675,000	\$43,375,000
Total	\$39,500,000	\$9,875,000	\$49,375,000

The City will work with local and regional partners to determine the cost share requirements for the \$9,875,000 in local funds. Any cost share agreements and proposed allocations will be presented to the JPA for consideration and approval at future meetings.