



STAFF REPORT
12/9/2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Andrew Simmons, P.E., City Engineer

SUBJECT: Amendment No. 1 to the Reimbursement Agreement with Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) in an amount of \$1,475,709 to fund professional engineering services and right-of-way acquisition for the Avenue 50/Whitewater Crossing (ST-69).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Amendment to the Reimbursement Agreement with Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) in the amount of \$5,902,835, of which \$1,475,709 represents the City's local share to fund right-of-way acquisition and professional engineering services for the Avenue 50/Whitewater Crossing, City Project ST-69.

BACKGROUND:

On November 13, 2013, a reimbursement agreement was made and entered by and between the City of Coachella and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments for a total of \$1,108,500 regional funds toward the engineering, design and environmental work for two projects along Avenue 50: a new bridge over the Coachella Valley Stormwater (CVS) Channel and a new interchange at State Route 86 (S-86). Amendment No. 1 is focused on providing additional funding for the bridge over the CVS Channel, City Project ST-69. This Amendment is in response to the request made by the City on July 27, 2020. The CVAG Executive Committee approved it on September 21, 2020.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The Avenue 50 Bridge would replace an existing low-water crossing and construct a new six-lane bridge over the Coachella Valley Stormchannel. The Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA/ED) phase has been completed and was approved by Caltrans in May 2019.

The City of Coachella previously secured \$29,915,500 from Caltrans' Highway Bridge Program (HBP). In 2019, the City secured an additional \$22,449,250, which increased the total federal participating cost to \$52,364,750. The bridge is now fully funded with an estimated City local share of \$1,501,560; however, the money is not yet available from the state because Caltrans' HBP fund is oversubscribed.

This amendment to the reimbursement agreement with CVAG will provide additional regional funding for the final design phase (PS&E) and right-of-way acquisition. Completion of PS&E will make the project shovel ready and more competitive based on Caltrans Highway Bridge Program (HBP) Reform Policies. It will also make the adjacent interchange at SR-86 more competitive as the City seeks to secure additional funding for the interchange.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The existing and amended reimbursement agreements with CVAG split costs under a 75% regional share/ 25% local share. CVAG will fund a total of \$5,504,678 (preliminary and final design) for the plans, specifications and engineer’s estimate (PS&E) documents and right-of-way acquisition for the above referenced project. The City’s share will be \$1,501,560 of which \$25,851 has been expended and \$607,168 is already included in the City’s adopted 20/21 budget. The remaining \$868,541 is expected to be budgeted and expended over the course of 24-36 months from future Street and Transportation Development Impact Fees (Fund 127).

Regional (CVAG) and local (City) funds used for PS&E and right-of-way acquisition costs will be counted toward the City’s HBP grant required match. Spending these funds in the PS&E and right-of-way acquisition phase does not change the total City funds anticipated for the project.

	Total	CVAG	City	Total Request Amount	
Preliminary Engineering Prior Expenditures (PA/ED phase)*	\$901,500	77,552	25,851	798,098 (HBP Reimbursed)	
Final Design (PS&E phase)	\$3,000,500	\$2,250,375	\$750,125	\$3,000,500	100%
Right of Way	\$5,254,000	\$2,176,751	\$725,584	\$2,902,335	55%
Construction (HBP Grant)	\$43,208,750	No Request for Construction			
TOTAL	\$52,364,750	\$4,427,126	\$1,475,709	\$5,902,835	11.27%

	Total	CVAG	City
Local Match Shares	\$6,006,237	4,504,678	\$1,501,559
Prior Local Expenditures	(\$103,402)	(\$77,552)	(\$25,851)
TOTAL – Local Match Balance	\$5,902,835	\$4,427,126	\$1,475,709

* CVAG’s original authorization (existing reimbursement agreement) was for \$1,505,000 with a City local share of \$396,500. Some of these funds were spent on the Ave. 50/State Routs 86 interchange portion of the City project. Only the amounts shown were applicable to the Avenue 50 bridge over the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (the project discussed in this staff report).

ATTACHMENTS:

Letter from CVAG
Amendment No.1 to the Reimbursement Agreement

