



CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 11/01/05
AGENDA ITEM 3
WORK SESSION ITEM _____

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Authorization for the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement for an Environmental Impact Report on the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Mark Thomas & Company in an amount not to exceed \$1,400,000 for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project.

DISCUSSION:

On March 1, 2005, the City Council approved submission of the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project to the Alameda County Transportation Authority (ACTA) as the replacement project for the Route 238 Bypass Project. The objective of the proposed project is to reduce traffic congestion in the Route 238 Corridor with a project that is acceptable to the community and that fits within the available funding (\$91 million). The project consists of a one-way loop system in the downtown area as follows: Foothill Boulevard - six lanes one-way northbound between the Mission Boulevard-Foothill Boulevard-Jackson Street intersection and "A" Street; "A" Street - five lanes one-way westbound from Foothill Boulevard to Mission Boulevard; and Mission Boulevard - five lanes southbound from "A" Street to the grade separation. "B" Street would be converted to a two-way facility between Foothill Boulevard and Second Street. Partial grade separations would be constructed at Jackson Street-Watkins Street and at Mission Boulevard-Foothill Boulevard-Jackson Street such that only eastbound Jackson Street to northbound Foothill Boulevard would be depressed. Moreover, there would be no traffic signal at the Mission-Foothill-Jackson intersection. Additional improvements south of the grade separation would include removal of peak hour parking and conversion to travel lanes during peak hours, spot widening at the Mission Boulevard-Carlos Bee Boulevard intersection, construction of a traffic signal at Mission Boulevard-Berry Avenue, and improvements at the Mission Boulevard-Moreau High School driveway entrance. North of "A" Street to Grove Way, peak hour-only travel lanes would be provided on Foothill Boulevard in the northbound direction only.

ACTA subsequently approved an amendment to the 1986 Measure B Expenditure Plan to delete the 238 Bypass, and include the proposed Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project and other projects in Central Alameda County. The amendment has been approved by the County and by a majority of the cities that represent most of the incorporated population in Alameda

County, including the City of Hayward. Consequently, ACTA considers the amendment to have been approved.

The next step in the project development process is the preparation of an EIR, to meet the California Environmental Quality Act requirements. Staff sent letters to the consulting firms interviewed for the Project Study Report (PSR) to determine which firms would have an interest in submitting proposals for the environmental phase of the project. Mark Thomas & Company, who prepared the PSR, was the only firm to indicate an interest in being considered for this work. It is believed the other viable consultants recognized the significant advantage to the City in continuing with a proven team. Mark Thomas & Company team, which includes Jones and Stokes for environmental analysis and Dowling Associates for traffic analysis, is highly qualified to complete this phase of project development. Staff considers Mark Thomas & Company's level of effort and proposed fee reasonable for the project scope. It is, therefore, recommended that Mark Thomas & Company be selected as the lead consultant for this project. The not-to-exceed fee is divided into \$1,300,000 for basic services and \$100,000 for additional services that may be needed, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,400,000.

SUMMARY OF SCOPE OF SERVICES:

The first step in the process will be a citywide scoping meeting to obtain feedback from the public on key issues that should be evaluated in the EIR. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for early December. The purpose of the scoping meeting will be to obtain feedback from the public regarding the critical issues that will need to be analyzed and the alternatives to the project that will need to be studied. At this time, the Mark Thomas & Company scope has identified the following alternatives: no project, the approved Expenditure Plan project, project approved by Council on November 9, 2004 (no mini loop), a transit alternative, and one additional alternative that may be identified through the scoping process.

One of the critical tasks to be conducted will be the traffic analysis. Some of the previous analyses prepared for prior iterations of the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project will be used and the Mark Thomas & Company team will need to perform a detailed traffic analysis only for those alternatives that have not yet been studied. This analysis will coincide with the ongoing South Hayward BART/Mission Boulevard Concept Plan. When a land use alternative is selected for that plan, the new land use will need to be incorporated into the traffic analysis, which may require some additional traffic model work.

As a part of the traffic analysis, access is expected to be a key issue, particularly for businesses in the downtown area that might be affected by the one-way circulation pattern. In addition, the impact of the loss of peak hour parking will also be studied and recommendations for replacement parking will be identified, if needed. The impact on pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit will also be examined. As Council will recall, new bicycle facilities are being proposed for Mission and Foothill Boulevards.

The EIR will also address other key issues such as air quality, seismic (since the grade separations are being built near the Hayward Fault), noise, cultural and historic resources (potentially as a result of the D Street widening), water quality (including the potential of

impacts to San Lorenzo Creek), hazardous materials, and utility relocation. Additionally, the EIR will look at impacts to schools such as Bret Harte, Bowman School, and Moreau High School, and impacts to community facilities. It is possible that other issues will emerge from the scoping meeting.

The consultant will also develop a construction staging and detour plan that will be used to help the public navigate around the construction, since normal circulation patterns will be disrupted.

The visual and aesthetic impacts of the project will also be analyzed. Although the public has viewed conceptual renderings of prior efforts, the renderings for the revised grade separations in the downtown area have not yet been prepared.

Additionally, the Mark Thomas and Company team will analyze the issue of relinquishment. The team will prepare an analysis of the scope and cost of the improvements necessary for relinquishment of portions of Foothill Boulevard (Route 238), Mission Boulevard (Route 238 and Route 185), and Jackson Street (Route 92) that are within the City boundaries.

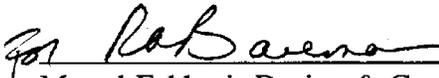
FUNDING:

The 2005-06 Capital Improvement Program includes a total of \$1,640,000 in the Route 238 Trust Fund for this project.

SCHEDULE:

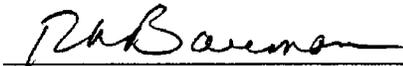
It is anticipated that work can begin immediately upon execution of the agreement. Early in this process, the City will conduct the scoping meeting, perhaps in early December, as discussed above. Following the scoping meeting, the list of alternatives meeting the project objective will be further refined. Once an agreement has been signed, completion and certification of the EIR is expected to take about 18 months.

Prepared by:



Morad Fakhrai, Design & Construction Services Manager

Recommended by:



Robert A. Bauman, Director of Public Works

Approved by:



Jesús Armas, City Manager

DRAFT

*MH
10/18/05*

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 05-

Introduced by Council Member _____

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER
TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HAYWARD
AND MARK THOMAS & COMPANY TO PREPARE AN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE
ROUTE 238 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hayward that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the City of Hayward a professional services agreement between the City of Hayward and Mark Thomas & Company to prepare and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project in an amount not to exceed \$1,400,000, in a form to be approved by the City Attorney.

IN COUNCIL, HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA _____, 2005

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
MAYOR:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney of the City of Hayward