



Council Agenda Report

From: Ditas Esperanza, Capital Projects Engineer

Subject: Approval of an Amendment to the Agreement with AECOM for 24th Street Bridge Project

CEQA Determination: Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following: 23 USC 326: Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2019, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(28).

Date: June 17, 2025

Facts

1. The 24th Street Bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track was constructed in 1959, with two lanes of traffic (one for each direction), and a narrow sidewalk on the south side, with no bike lanes.
2. In November 2015, Caltrans awarded the City a Federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP) grant for design of an upgraded and expanded bridge and to improve safety and throughput. The HBP grant for the project requires a City match of 12%.
3. In 2016, staff prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit consultant services for design engineering and submitted it to Caltrans for their review. Five firms responded and the City Council ultimately awarded the contract to AECOM.
4. Since then, there have been two amendments to AECOM's agreement: the first was \$50,000 for additional right-of-way and coordination with UPRR; the second was \$406,947 for final design and initiation of the right-of-way phase.
5. AECOM's efforts to negotiate final design acceptance of the bridge with Union Pacific Railroad and Caltrans Structures Division has proven challenging. In addition, coordinating the land swap of right of way between the City and the 16th Agricultural District (i.e., the 'Mid-State Fair'), staff in Sacramento have required numerous meetings and discussions. The additional time and tasks require an amendment to AECOM's contract for an additional \$450,000.

Options

1. Take no action;
2. Authorize the City Manager to increase AECOM's existing contract by \$450,000; or
3. Provide alternative direction to staff.

Analysis and Conclusions

The 24th Street Bridge has been an ongoing project since Caltrans awarded the City a grant for the design and eventual expansion and rehabilitation of the bridge. The City's design consultant, AECOM, has been

instrumental in where the project is today. AECOM's efforts to complete the final design are progressing well despite challenges working with other agencies. This proposed amendment will allow them to complete the design, which is a critical step in having the Federal Highway Administration provide a grant to fund the construction.

Fiscal Impact

In 2016, AECOM's original fee to perform final design was \$817,479. During preliminary work, it became apparent that identifying existing right-of-way and coordination with UPRR would require an expanded scope of work. As such, in 2018, an amendment was made, increasing the total fee by \$50,000, for a total of \$867,479.

In 2021, environmental clearances for the project were received, allowing for completion of final design and the right-of-way acquisition phase. As a result, on September 7, 2021, City Council approved the second amendment to AECOM's agreement, increasing the contract by \$406,947. There have been no other amendments since 2021.

The current contract amendment AECOM totals \$450,000. This additional fee can be covered by the HBP grant (\$396,000) and traffic impact fees (\$54,000). As such, no budget amendment is necessary.

CEQA

Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following: 23 USC 326: Caltrans has been assigned and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2019, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(28).

Recommendation (Option 2)

Approve Resolution 25-XXX, authorizing the City Manager to approve an amendment to the existing AECOM agreement for an increase of \$450,000 for the completion of the final design of the 24th Street Bridge project and authorize the City Manager, in consultation with the City Attorney, to make minor changes to the agreement, if needed, fully consistent with overall Council direction.

Attachments

1. Resolution 25-XXX – AECOM Agreement Amendment – 24th Street Bridge Project
2. NEPA/CEQA Clearance Document