Agenda Item #11.5 For Council Meeting of: February 25, 2014

CITY OF SANTA ROSA CITY COUNCIL

TO: SUBJECT:	MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL PROJECT APPROVAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT AGREEMENT 04-2492 – HEARN AVENUE
STAFF PRESENTER:	INTERCHANGE AT HIGHWAY 101 DAVID VANDEVEER, ASSOCIATE CIVIL ENGINEER TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
AGENDA ACTION:	RESOLUTION

ISSUE(S)

Should the Council approve a Cooperative Agreement between the State of California and the City of Santa Rosa authorizing Caltrans to provide Independent Quality Assurance for the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) for the Hearn Avenue Interchange at Highway 101?

COUNCIL GOALS AND STRATEGIES

Goal 1. Create a Strong, Sustainable Economic Base

The improvement of the Hearn Avenue Interchange will enhance vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle access between the west and east sides of Highway 101 which in turn will enhance access to a number of significant commercial facilities.

Goal 3: Provide Leadership in Environmental Initiatives

The improvement of the Hearn Avenue Interchange will reduce vehicle congestion and green house gases, and enhance pedestrian and bicycle access between the west and east sides of Highway 101.

BACKGROUND

The City and Caltrans entered into Agreement No. 04-2348 to develop the Project Initiation Document (PID) on January 18, 2013. The City Council approved this agreement by resolution No. 28069.

The PID was completed in 2013. This next phase of work, the PA&ED, involves preliminary engineering and environmental documentation. Caltrans would provide Independent Quality Assurance under a new Cooperative Agreement (District Agreement 04-2492).

Hearn Interchange Cooperative Agreement for Project Approval and Environmental Document Page 2 of 2

ANALYSIS

- 1. Caltrans would provide Independent Quality Assurance for the portions of work within existing and proposed State Highway System right-of-way and would perform its Quality Control/Quality Assurance Program process review for environmental documentation at no cost to the City.
- 2. Caltrans would be the lead agency for both CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) and preliminary NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act). Once the requirements of CEQA and NEPA have been met the City may proceed with final design of the project.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council, by resolution, approve Cooperative Agreement 04-2492 between the State of California and the City of Santa Rosa authorizing Caltrans to provide Independent Quality Assurance for the Project Approval and Environmental Document for the Hearn Avenue interchange at Highway 101 at no cost to the City.

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