



ITEM ID: 2023-128-0

TRANSMITTAL DATE: March 3, 2023

MEETING DATE: March 10, 2023

TO: Contracts, Operations, Maintenance, and Safety Committee

FROM: Justin Fornelli, Chief, Program Delivery

SUBJECT: Design Services Agreement with City of Simi Valley for the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements Project

Issue

Approval is needed to negotiate and execute a Design Services Agreement with the City of Simi Valley for funds to be allocated to the Authority to advance the Design (Plans, Specifications, & Estimates - PS&E) phase of the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements project.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee recommend that the Board authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Design Services Agreement between the City of Simi Valley and the Authority for a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,400,000 for the Authority to lead the Design (PS&E) phase of the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements project.

Strategic Commitment

This report aligns with the Strategic Business Plan commitment of:

- **Safety is Foundational:** We will stay on the leading edge by deploying new technologies and processes to enhance the safety and security of our riders, our fellow employees, and the communities we serve. The Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements Project will provide safety and reliability benefits at the Sequoia Avenue

grade crossing on the Metrolink Ventura County Line.

Background

The Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements Project will upgrade the existing grade crossing at Sequoia Avenue to current Metrolink standards, thereby providing a safer and more reliable grade crossing for Metrolink and freight rail services and for local vehicle and pedestrian movements. The crossing improvements at Sequoia Avenue will enable the City of Simi Valley to apply for a quiet-zone with the FRA at this crossing along with the 4 crossing improvements on the Simi Valley Double Track Project.

In the FY22-23 state budget, State Assembly Member Irwin sponsored \$4.5 million of funding to the City of Simi Valley, which combined with \$1.7 million of CARSF funding awarded to Metrolink, provided a total of \$6.2 million of total funding for the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements project.

Metrolink obtained CEQA Environmental Clearance in July 2021, and NEPA Environmental Clearance in November 2021, for the SCORE Simi Valley Double Track project, which also included the Sequoia Avenue grade crossing improvements.

Discussion

The Authority and the City of Simi Valley have agreed that the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements project will be bundled with the Authority's SCORE Simi Valley Double Track project. Therefore, the Authority will lead, and City of Simi Valley will support, both the Design (PS&E) and Construction phases of the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements project.

The Authority and the City of Simi Valley have agreed that the City of Simi Valley's funding under the FY22-23 state budget will be utilized by the Authority to deliver the Design (PS&E) phase of the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements project. The Design Services Agreement will provide a not-to-exceed total amount of \$1,400,000 of funding to the Authority.

For the Construction phase, the Authority and City of Simi Valley have agreed that a separate Construction & Maintenance (C&M) Agreement will be negotiated and executed at a later date.

Budget Impact

All funding for this project is provided by City of Simi Valley funds.

Next Steps

Upon Board Authorization, the Design Services Agreement will be negotiated and executed between the Authority and the City of Simi Valley. The City of Simi Valley staff are also requesting approval from the City Council to negotiate and execute the Design Services

Agreement at their March 2023 Council meeting.

Prepared by: Chris Haskell, Senior Manager
Elizabeth Lun, Assistant Director, Design

Approved by: Justin Fornelli, Chief, Program Delivery

Attachment(s)

[Presentation - Design Services Agreement with City of Simi Valley for the Sequoia Avenue Grade Crossing Improvements Project](#)