



# City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL                      DATE: JULY 24, 2018**

**FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT                                      WARDS: 1 AND 2**

**SUBJECT: THIRD STREET GRADE SEPARATION — AGREEMENT WITH THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS; AND \$4.0 MILLION SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION**

**ISSUES:**

Approval of an Agreement with the Western Riverside Council of Governments for \$4.0 million in Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee program funds for the Third Street Grade Separation project; and a supplemental appropriation of the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee funds.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Approve the agreement with the Western Riverside Council of Governments for \$4.0 million in Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee funding for the Third Street Grade Separation project;
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the agreement with the Western Riverside Council of Governments, including making minor non-substantial changes; and
3. Authorize a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$4.0 million in Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee funds to the Third Street Grade Separation project account number 9990119-440315, and increase the estimated revenue by the same amount in the Third Street Grade Separation project account number 9990119-339100.

**BACKGROUND:**

On April 11, 2017, the City Council received a report on the review and prioritization of potential railroad grade separations along the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad at Jackson Street, Mary Street, Spruce Street, and Third Street. Following this report, the City Council approved the Third Street/ BNSF line as the top priority railroad grade separation, and directed the Public Works Department to issue a Request for Proposals to complete the Project Approval and Environmental Document phase of the Third Street grade separation.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) developed and administers the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF), a program that ensures that new development pays its fair share of the increased traffic that it creates. The TUMF fees paid by new development in Western Riverside County are held in trust by WRCOG for the purpose of funding qualifying projects. WRCOG has identified the Third Street Grade Separation project as a qualifying project of regional importance. The approval of this agreement will release \$4.0 million in TUMF funds which will allow the City to proceed with completing the engineering design of the Project.

The Third Street Grade Separation project (Project) proposes to construct a railroad underpass at Third Street and the BNSF railroad tracks. Third Street will be lowered from about Vine Street to Park Avenue and a bridge will be constructed to convey rail traffic. The project will require the realignment of Commerce Street, construction of slopes, retaining walls, storm water pump station, and relocation of wet and dry utilities.

On April 12, 2018, the Public Works Department issued RFP No. 1717 (RFP), requesting proposals from qualified consulting firms to complete the Project Approval and Environmental Documents (PA&ED); and to prepare the Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) for the Project.

On May 29, 2018, in response to the RFP, the Public Works Department received six proposals. A selection committee comprised of the City Engineer, two Public Works staff, a representative of the BNSF railroad, and a representative of the Riverside County Transportation Commission evaluated the written proposals and invited three (3) consultants for interviews. The interviews are scheduled to take place on July 2, 2018. Upon the conclusion of the interviews and the selection of a consultant Public Works Department will return to the City Council by October of 2018 to seek the approval of a Professional Consultant Services Agreement and to begin design.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The attached agreement provides for \$4.0 million in TUMF funding to fund the Project Approval and Environmental Documents (PA&ED); and the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) phases of the Project. TUMF funding will be appropriated into the Third Street Grade Separation project account 9990119-440315.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director  
Certified as to  
availability of funds: Adam Raymond, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer  
Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager  
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment:

1. Project Location Map
2. Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee Program Agreement to Reimburse TUMF Funds—  
Third Street Grade Separation
3. Presentation