



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: MAY 3, 2016**

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARD: 1**

SUBJECT: SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CHICAGO AVENUE/BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE RAILROAD CROSSING - SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$563,625

ISSUES:

The issues for City Council consideration are to approve a Service Contract with the State of California Department of Transportation (State) to complete improvements to the Chicago Avenue/Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad Crossing; and appropriate Section 130 Program grant funds in the amount of \$563,625 for the project.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve and authorize execution of a Service Contract between the State and the City for the improvements to the Chicago Avenue/BNSF Railroad crossing in the amount of \$563,625; and
2. Authorize a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$563,625 from Section 130 Program grant funds to Project Account No. 9894728-440125 and increase the estimated revenue by the same amount in Project Account No. 9894728-331310.

BACKGROUND:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has recommended the installation of improvements at the BNSF at-grade railroad crossing on Chicago Avenue between Massachusetts Avenue and Spruce Street. The improvements will enhance safety at the crossing for both motorists and pedestrians. Work will include installation of upgraded warning devices and gates, concrete panel surfacing to smooth travel over the tracks, and roadway edge line striping.

Additionally, to facilitate pedestrian traffic across the tracks, segments of concrete sidewalk will be installed on the westerly side and a pedestrian curb ramp constructed at Chicago and Marlborough Avenue. Pedestrian barricades will restrict pedestrian access on the easterly side where sidewalk improvements do not exist. Due to the close proximity of the existing left-turn pocket on southbound Chicago Avenue at Marlborough Avenue to the railroad tracks,

modification of the existing north and south medians and striping to will be utilized to restrict the left-turn movement thereby reducing the potential for vehicles stacking on the tracks while waiting to make a left-turn movement.

The shared City/BNSF project will involve completion of specific project components by each agency. The City is responsible for construction of the concrete sidewalk and pedestrian curb ramp, installation of pedestrian barricades, detectable warnings, roadway striping, and fencing, modifications to the north and south medians and roadway striping, and removal of designated trees. These improvements will be funded with Federal Funds provided to Caltrans under Section 130, Title 23 of the United States Code. BNSF will be responsible for the installation of flashing light signal assemblies, an automatic gate, railroad indications, and concrete panel surfacing under a separate agreement between the State and the BNSF railroad.

Under the terms of the attached Agreement, the State will reimburse the City for all project costs including design and construction of the improvements up to \$563,625. The BNSF will design and construct their respective improvements under a separate contract with the State.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total estimated cost of the project including design, construction, construction engineering and contingencies is \$563,625 which will be funded entirely by Section 130 Program grant funds. No City matching funds are required; however, it is necessary for the City Council to appropriate the grant funds.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Scott Miller, Interim Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Location Map
2. Agreement between City and State of California Department of Transportation