



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

**FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT      WARD: 5**

**SUBJECT: APPROVE A COOPERATIVE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH RIVERSIDE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MONROE MASTER DRAINAGE PLAN, MONROE STORM DRAIN, STAGE 5 PROJECT – SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,800,000**

## **ISSUES:**

The issues for City Council consideration are: 1) Approve Monroe Master Drainage Plan, Monroe Storm Drain, Stage 5 Project No. 1-0-00071-05 (Project) Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and 2) authorize a supplemental appropriation of \$13,800,000.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Approve a Cooperative Funding Agreement with Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for the construction of the Monroe Master Drainage Plan, Monroe Storm Drain, Stage 5 Project No. 1-0-00071-05;
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute MDP Monroe Storm Drain, Stage 5 Project No. 1-0-00071-05 Cooperative Funding Agreement, including making minor and non-substantive changes; and
3. With at least five affirmative votes, authorize a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$13,800,000 to the Storm Drain Fund, MDP Monroe Channel Stage Five Project Expenditure account and record an increase in the same amount in the project revenue account.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Monroe channel is composed of several master drainage plan sections. The section along the easterly side of Monroe Street from California Avenue to Magnolia Avenue is referred to as the MDP Monroe Storm Drain Stage 4 and in 2018 was improved and covered as part of a collaborative effort between the City and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District). The project included amenities such as lighting, benches, walking

path, trash receptacles, and decorative rock features to benefit the local community. The section that runs along the centerline of Monticello Avenue from California Avenue to Colorado Avenue in the City of Riverside known as MDP Monroe Storm Drain Stage 5 (Attachment 1) and this project proposes to improve it.

In 2018 the District completed the Monroe Storm Stage 4 project which improved 2700 linear feet of the channel between Magnolia Avenue and California Avenue. In 2019 the City followed with a project that installed new planting, drip-irrigation and a decorative pathway over the storm drain box. The City planned to improve the section along Monticello Avenue as a separate project as it is undersized and requires regular maintenance. At the request of the City, the District has budgeted funds for design and construction of the MDP Monroe Storm Drain Stage 5 Project. Under the terms of the Cooperative funding Agreement (Attachment 2), the District will reimburse the City up to \$13.8 million for the design and construction of the storm drain improvements.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The MDP Monroe Storm Drain Stage 5 Project will remove approximately 3,400 linear feet of existing concrete lined channel along Monticello Avenue between California Avenue and Colorado Avenue and replace it with an underground concrete box. The Project will increase the capacity of the storm drain line to convey flows from a 10-year storm event and provide a higher level of flood protection to the surrounding areas.

Under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement, the City will plan, secure environmental clearance, design, construct, and manage the Project utilizing District funds. Additionally, staff collaborated with the District to secure necessary funding to relocate existing streetlights, water irrigation meters, and pave Monticello Avenue within the project limits. The Public Works Department will be responsible to provide project updates to the District and alert them of change orders or needs to increase funding to complete the work.

Preliminary work has begun as staff has coordinated with the District to secure topographic mapping and digital data files for the project. As part of the project, the Public Works Department plans to include a decorative pathway and new landscaping within the closed concrete channel to promote active transportation within the local neighborhoods.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

This item contributes to the Envision Riverside 2025 City Council Strategic Priority 6 – Infrastructure, Mobility, and Connectivity and the following goals:

6.1 – Provide, expand and ensure equitable access to sustainable modes of transportation that connect people to opportunities such as employment, education, healthcare, and community amenities.

6.2 – Maintain, protect, and improve assets and infrastructure within the City's built environment to ensure and enhance reliability, resiliency, sustainability, and facilitate connectivity.

6.3 – Identify and pursue new and unique funding opportunities to develop, operate, maintain, and renew infrastructure and programs that meet the community's needs.

Further, this project aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads below:

1. **Community Trust** – This project reduces flooding concerns along Monticello Avenue and

surrounding areas. By providing a covered channel, this Project will provide amenities to encourage walking so residents can travel to schools, CBU University, parks, and retail centers.

2. **Equity** – The project will provide improved flood protection to the Ramona neighborhood and surrounding community.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – City funds will not be used to construct this project. This Project exemplifies the strong partnership with the District to deliver valuable storm water infrastructure to the City and region. By applying for and receiving District funds, the City can increase the capacity of the Monroe channel by replacing the existing section with a reinforced concrete box. The Project also focuses on safety by relocating and adding streetlights to promote and encourage walking in the evening hours. The covered channel will save maintenance costs.
4. **Innovation** – This Project takes advantage of the covered channel to provide a walkway to serve the community while increasing flooding protection.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – The construction materials specified for this project are considered best practices in the industry and are expected to last well into the future.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total fiscal impact of this action is \$13,800,000. Upon Council approval, record an appropriation of \$13,800,000 in the Storm Drain Fund, MDP Monroe Channel Stage Five Project expenditure account number 9909800-440309 and record an increase in the same amount in the project revenue account number 9909800-339000.

The total estimated project cost is \$13,800,000 and via the Cooperative Funding Agreement, which the District will reimburse the City up to this amount.

Prepared by: Gilbert Hernandez, Interim Public Works Director  
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availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer  
Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager  
Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

#### **Attachments:**

1. Project Location Map
2. Cooperative Funding Agreement