

**THIRD STREET GRADE SEPARATION – APPROVAL OF  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
FUNDING AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT 1 TO PRELIMINARY  
ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BURLINGTON  
NORTHERN SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY – SUPPLEMENTAL  
APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,000,000**

## **Public Works Department**

City Council  
November 28, 2023

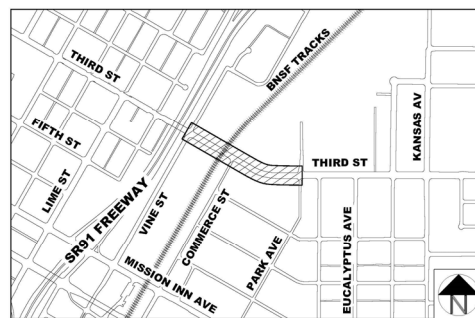
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## **BACKGROUND**

1. April 11, 2017 – Council approved 3<sup>rd</sup> St./BNSF as the top priority grade separation & directed Public Works to issue RFP to complete project approval and environmental documents (PA&ED) phase of the project;
2. March 23, 2021 – Council approved Federal funding agreement with RCTC for \$18,000,000 in CMAQ funds for the right-of-way phase of the project; and
3. May 24, 2022 - Council approved project support agreement with BNSF in the amount of \$75,000.

Status: The project is currently in the right of way & final design phase, and construction is expected to start in Fall 2025



**THIRD STREET GRADE SEPARATION  
FROM VINE STREET TO PARK AVENUE**



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## PROJECT BENEFITS

1. Eliminate train horns.
2. Eliminate 192 minutes per day of gate down time.
3. Eliminate idling traffic and improve traffic flow.
4. Improve air quality by eliminating idling vehicles emission.
5. Improve safety by eliminating the potential for train versus vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrian accidents.
6. Improve emergency vehicles response time.



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## DISCUSSION

To advance the project, it is necessary to:

1. Approve a grant agreement with RCTC for the construction phase of the project
2. Amend the agreement with BNSF for continued work on the project's right of way phase.



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## STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

### Strategic Priority No. 6 Infrastructure, Mobility and Connectivity

**Goal 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.



Community Trust



Fiscal Responsibility



Sustainability & Resiliency



Equity



Innovation



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## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

1. Approve the \$12,000,000 Measure A Regional Arterials (MARA) Funding Agreement with the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) for the construction phase of the Third Street Grade Separation Project;
2. Approve Amendment 1 to Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway Company in the amount of \$35,000, bringing the total agreement amount to \$110,000;



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## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

3. With at least five affirmative votes, authorize the Chief Financial Officer, or designee, to record a supplemental appropriation to increase expenses by \$12,000,000 and record an increase in revenue in the same amount to the Measure A Capital Outlay Fund, Third St/BNSF Grade Separation; and
4. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute the MARA Funding Agreement with RCTC and Amendment 1 to Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement with BNSF, including making minor and non-substantive changes.



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