

JTAC STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Request for Proposals: Connected 2050 Environmental Review and Transportation Impact Threshold Setting

MEETING DATE: May 7, 2020

AGENDA ITEM: 4

STAFF CONTACT: Michael Becker

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and comment on draft request for proposals for work related to Connected 2050 environmental review and the setting of a transportation impact threshold.

DISCUSSION:

SBCAG intends to release a request for proposals (RFP) in May for two separate, yet related tasks. Proposals will be due in June with the goal of SBCAG Board approval of a contract during its July meeting. Staff will seek JTAC volunteers to assist with the proposal review process.

Connected 2050 Environmental Review

Regional transportation plans (RTPs) are subject to a programmatic environmental review consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). For Fast Forward 2040, the RTP adopted in 2017, a Supplement to an Environmental Impact Report (SEIR / EIR) to assess environmental impacts and to satisfy CEQA requirements. The SEIR supplemented the EIR prepared for the 2013 RTP. Staff expects a new EIR will be required for Connected 2050 due to the new planning horizon and an updated Regional Growth Forecast.

Transportation Impact Threshold

SB 743 requires transportation impacts to be assessed by vehicle miles travelled as opposed to level of service. SBCAG has historically relied on the CEQA thresholds set by the County of Santa Barbara. The County is in the process of updating its transportation impact threshold for consistency with SB 743, but the County is focusing solely on unincorporated portions of the region necessitating SBCAG to set its own threshold. A task is included in the RFP to assist SBCAG in setting its transportation impact threshold.

Please note that the RFP will require respondents describe how they will conduct meetings in the current Coronavirus environment.

Attachments:

- A. Draft Request for Proposals (web posting only)