

## SBCAG STAFF REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Rincon Trail Project

**MEETING DATE:** February 17, 2022

**AGENDA ITEM:** 4D

**STAFF CONTACT:** Fred Luna

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute amendment no. 3 to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Carpinteria for additional design and right of way funding in the amount of \$550,000 for a not to exceed total of \$2,674,000 for pre-construction work and to extend the period of performance to December 31, 2023.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Rincon Trail Project will close a gap in the California Coastal Trail between Rincon Beach County Park and the Carpinteria Avenue at the east end of the City of Carpinteria. The project was identified by the California Coastal Commission as a balancing project for the City of Carpinteria's Local Coastal Program Amendment (LCPA) that was necessary because of the Highway 101 HOV (Phase 4) and Linden Casitas (Phase 3) projects. Furthermore, the Coastal Development Permit (CDP) issued to Caltrans for the Linden Casitas project by the City of Carpinteria in November 2015 included a condition of approval which required the completion of the Rincon Trail project as a coastal access "mitigation" project for Highway 101 improvements.

The proposed trail will utilize land owned by the City of Carpinteria and the County of Santa Barbara, two of the project proponents. The trail also proposes to transfer property from Caltrans to the City of Carpinteria, and a 15' wide pre-fabricated steel bridge will span over the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks.

The City of Carpinteria, acting as the CEQA lead agency, approved and certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) at their City Planning Commission meeting on January 18, 2022. In 2016, SBCAG received ATP funds for construction phase in the amount of \$6.83 million. SBCAG later re-programmed \$802,000 of the ATP funding for design and right of way to fill in a need for project development funds. The \$802,000 in pre-construction funds have been allocated and are currently being utilized. The construction funding of \$6.03 million requires submittal of a request for allocation to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) by August 2022.

A Memorandum of Understanding between SBCAG and the City of Carpinteria is in place to outline the contribution of pre-construction funds for the project. In addition to ATP funds, SBCAG has to date contributed another \$672,000 in Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds to the project. The City has contributed another \$650,000 in various grants to the project. At the January 20, 2022, meeting of the SBCAG Board, the board of directors approved an additional contribution of \$550,000 to the project for pre-construction services to allow for the

ability to have the City of Carpinteria continue work to achieve the milestones required for the August 2022 funding deadline.

Staff is seeking a recommendation for approval of Amendment No. 3 to the MOU with the City of Carpinteria. The amendment would add new RSTP funding in the amount of \$550,000.

*The recommended action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines.*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Amendment No. 3 to the Memorandum of Understanding (web posting only)