



CITY of CALABASAS

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: AUGUST 2, 2021

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: ROBERT YALDA, P.E., T.E., PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER
BY: TATIANA HOLDEN, P.E., SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE AMOUNT OF SIX MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THIRTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$6,513,250) BETWEEN THE CITY OF CALABASAS AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (METRO) FOR THE FUNDING OF MULHOLLAND HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

MEETING

DATE: AUGUST 11, 2021

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council approve the funding agreement for the amount of six million five hundred thirteen thousand two hundred fifty (\$6,513,250) dollars between the City of Calabasas and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) for the funding of Mulholland Highway Improvements Project.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The Mulholland Highway Improvements Project limits are from Old Topanga Canyon Road (E) to the westerly City limits (border with Los Angeles County). This segment of Mulholland Hwy is classified as an Arterial in the City's General Plan and has one travel lane in each direction, separated by a solid double yellow centerline. Left turn lanes are striped at the intersections or driveways to the estates. Mulholland Hwy provides a crucial alternative route to access either the US-101 or the US-1 (Pacific Coast), connecting the Los Angeles and Ventura

counties, when there is closure to either one of these roadways due to major incident or fire. The posted speed limit is 45 mph.

The segment on Mulholland Hwy between the east leg and west leg of its intersection with Old Topanga Canyon Rd experiences heavy congestion during school pick-up and drop-off times. There are 17 reported accidents within this segment of roadway for the past five years. It has one of the highest accident rates in the City.

The proposed improvements for the project are to provide spot shoulder widening and walkway where it is feasible. Another improvement is to install a new traffic signal at Mulholland Hwy and Old Topanga Canyon Road (W). A traffic signal warrant study was conducted at the intersection. Results of the study showed that it met two vehicular volume warrants. Other improvements include LED speed feedback signs installed along the corridor to slow down traffic, LED flashing lights warning motorists at the approach to the curve, sight distance improvements, guardrail replacements and erosion controls.

This corridor is a popular route for recreational cyclists. The proposed shoulder improvements would improve bike safety along this route by reducing frictions between vehicular traffic and bicyclists. The City General Plan designates Mulholland Highway, within the project limits, as a Class II bike facility. However, providing a continuous bike lane is cost prohibitive due to existing road conditions. Mulholland Highway through this segment is lined, typically on both sides, by utilities, power poles, steep hillsides, drainage structures, and homes that constrain the widening capacity of the route. Widening beyond these existing features would significantly increase project cost. The project proposes to widen the paved shoulder width of Mulholland Highway, where feasible, to improve the rideability and use of the shoulder area for bicyclists. The widened area would provide a smooth consistent surface for bicyclist use and would relocate low cost, high impact roadside objects such as guardrail and fire hydrants to provide a wider, more consistent shoulder width. These improvements are likely to enhance safety for bicyclists and vehicles on the route by increasing the paved shoulder width.

Improving sight distance with cutbacks and a minor modification to the bends in the road would improve safety. Constructing retaining walls adjacent to unstable slopes would eliminate the roadway being closed due to mudslides and/or debris flow during a rainstorm or earthquake. In addition, new culverts will be constructed to replace existing culverts that are capable to handle 50-year storms.

Michael Baker International completed the Feasibility Study in December 2020. Design work for the project is scheduled to start in August 2021. The construction with duration of 14 months is projected to begin in June 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Design and construction of the project will be funded with Measure M funds from Metro for \$6,513,250. The requested funds should be deposited to the appropriate project account and that the budget be modified and adjusted accordingly.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Staff recommends that City Council approve the funding agreement for the amount of six million five hundred thirteen thousand two hundred fifty (\$6,513,250) dollars between the City of Calabasas and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) for the funding of Mulholland Highway Improvements Project.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A – Project Funding Agreement