



**DATE:** January 23, 2020

**TO:** Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

**FROM:** Anne Richman, Executive Director *Anne Richman*  
Dan Cherrier, Principal Project Delivery Manager

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the Cooperative Agreement and Resolution for the Northbound US 101 to Eastbound I-580 Direct Connector Project (Action), Agenda Item No. 7d

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

The TAM Board approves Resolution 2020-03 authorizing the Executive Director (ED) to execute a Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the development of a Project Initiation Document (PID) for the Northbound (NB) US 101 to Eastbound (EB) I-580 Direct Connector Project for a not to exceed amount of \$180,000.

## **BACKGROUND**

TAM, in cooperation with Caltrans and the Cities of San Rafael and Larkspur, proposes to construct a direct highway connection from NB US 101 to EB I-580 and improve bicycle/pedestrian connections along Bellam Boulevard in San Rafael. Currently, drivers utilize local streets to access EB I-580 from NB US 101.

Over the past several years, TAM has developed seven preliminary alternative alignments for a permanent connector. Those alternatives cost from \$135 million to \$265 million and have a varying degree of impacts and right of way needs. In 2018, TAM successfully lobbied to have the direct connector placed into the voter approved Regional Measure 3 (RM3) for \$135 million, with the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) as a project co-sponsor. In November 2018, Marin County voters passed the Measure AA Transportation sales tax with 2% of the sales tax to be dedicated to the Project to allow TAM to expeditiously develop a project that is shelf ready for RM3 and other funding sources. This local commitment has allowed the project to move forward while expected RM3 funds have been delayed by litigation.

In July 2019, the TAM board authorized the award of a contract with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc. to develop preliminary engineering, outreach, environmental studies/approval and various required approval reports for the Project. The first task is to complete a Project Initiation Document (PID) which will require a cooperative agreement with Caltrans.

## **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

The cooperative agreement with Caltrans is a conventional and typical agreement which outlines the roles, responsibilities and funding commitments between TAM and Caltrans. TAM and Caltrans have agreed that a Project Study Report – Project Development Support (PSR-PDS) is the appropriate PID for this Project.

### **FISCAL CONSIDERATION**

Caltrans is required by government code to charge for oversight services of a PID. TAM staff reviewed the proposed cost estimate of \$180,000 by Caltrans and agrees the cost is reasonable for a project of this size, which will be paid using Measure AA funds.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Upon Board approval, staff will finalize and execute the Cooperative Agreement between TAM and Caltrans. Upon execution, Caltrans will be able to begin working with TAM to advance the PSR-PDS.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

TAM Resolution 2020-03

**TAM RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN APPROVING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT 04-2760 BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) AND THE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF MARIN (TAM) RELATED TO THE PREPARATION OF A PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENT (PID) FOR THE NORTHBOUND (NB) US 101 TO EASTBOUND (EB) I-580 DIRECT CONNECTOR PROJECT**

WHEREAS, TAM is a partner with Caltrans in the funding and implementation of the NB US 101 to EB I-580 Direct Connector project in Marin County; and

WHEREAS, Partners are authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement for improvements to the state highway system (SHS) per the California Streets and Highways Code sections 114 and 130; and

WHEREAS, In order for an agency other than Caltrans to perform work on the state highway system, the State requires that the agency enter into a cooperative agreement which defines the work, establishes the responsibilities and financial commitments of each partner; and,

WHEREAS, In July 2019, the TAM board authorized the award of a contract with a consultant to develop preliminary engineering, outreach, environmental studies/approval and various required approval reports for the connector project, and

WHEREAS, The first task is to complete a Project Initiation Document (PID) which requires a cooperative agreement with Caltrans; and

WHEREAS, TAM will lead the development of a PID and Caltrans will perform oversight and approval of the PID; and

WHEREAS, TAM staff has negotiated an agreement with fair terms to both parties that protects the interests of TAM; and,

WHEREAS, Caltrans will perform oversight and approval services for a not to exceed amount of \$180,000 to be funded by Measure AA ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Director is hereby authorized to enter into cooperative agreement 04-2760 and necessary amendments with Caltrans to prepare a PID for the NB US 101 to EB I-580 Connector Project.

# Item 7d - Attachment

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Authority of Marin held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:           Commissioners:

NOES:           Commissioners:

ABSENT:        Commissioners:

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Judy Arnold, Chair  
Transportation Authority of Marin

ATTEST:

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Anne Richman  
Executive Director