



DATE: April 23, 2020

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

FROM: Anne Richman, Executive Director *Anne Richman*
Derek McGill, Planning Manager

SUBJECT: Marin County US 101 Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study Contract Authorization (Action),
Agenda Item No. 6c

RECOMMENDATION

The Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Kimley-Horn to prepare the Marin County US 101 Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study, in the amount not to exceed \$308,000.

The Administration, Projects & Planning Executive Committee reviewed staff's recommendation at its March 9, 2020 meeting and voted unanimously to refer the item to the TAM Board for approval.

BACKGROUND

In June 2019, the TAM board approved a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into agreements with Caltrans to accept a \$308,000 planning grant to conduct the Marin County US 101 Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study and commit to a local match (in-kind staff time funded by city/county fee) in the amount of \$42,000. Bus on shoulder is a concept that has seen successfully implemented in various parts of the US, as well as piloted in California. During peak hours, public transit buses are allowed to operate on the shoulder of the highways to bypass areas of traffic congestion. This operational exception can significantly improve travel times for transit, improve transit reliability and make transit a more attractive travel option.

This study would assess the feasibility of this approach on US 101 in Northern Marin County. Study area limits are approximately between Mission Avenue in San Rafael and San Marin Avenue in Novato.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

In November 2019, TAM received Notice to Proceed from Caltrans to conduct the Marin County US 101 Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study.

TAM released a request for proposals/request for qualifications (RFP/Q) in January 2020, seeking qualified consultants to prepare the feasibility study that includes: operations planning, concept design, cost estimates, implementation planning, public outreach and other associated activities to support the development of this option for improving transit service. This RFP/Q was circulated through TAM's bidding notification channels, and TAM also coordinated with local transit operators to further extend circulation to transit planning consultants. TAM convened a selection panel to evaluate and review the responses to the RFP/Q. The selection panel consisted of two members of TAM staff, along with staff from Marin Transit and Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transit District (GGBHTD).

In response to this RFP/Q, TAM received three qualified responses. The selection panel evaluated all three qualified proposals received and interviewed all three firms. Based on the evaluation criteria, the selection panel unanimously recommended the following ranking of the firms:

1. Kimley-Horn
2. CDM Smith
3. TJKM

Based on the unanimous recommendation of the selection panel, TAM has begun contract negotiations with Kimley- Horn, and now seeks the Board's authorization to enter into agreement with Kimley-Horn, with a not to exceed amount of \$308,000.

FISCAL CONSIDERATION

Funding for this study is available from a Caltrans Planning Grant, and \$100,000 of the work planned is included in TAM's FY2019-20 Annual Budget. Work is expected to be completed in FY2020-21. Staff time for this effort is included as the local in-kind match to the Caltrans grant. No budget amendment to the FY2019-20 Annual Budget is necessary.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval of the TAM Board, staff will enter into contract with Kimley-Horn and conduct a kickoff meeting with project partners including Caltrans, California Highway Patrol (CHP), Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART), Marin Transit, GGBHTD, and local jurisdictions along the corridor. All work is required to be completed by February 2022.

ATTACHMENTS

N/A