



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: James R. Helmer
Larry D. Lisenbee

**SUBJECT: WILLOW GLEN WAY BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT**

DATE: 04-13-06

Approved

Date

4/17/06

Council District: 6

RECOMMENDATION

- a. Approval of the Second Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement with the Santa Clara Valley Water District for the replacement of the existing bridge across Guadalupe River at Willow Glen Way to increase the amount of the City of San José's cost share from \$434,700 to \$505,000.
- b. Adoption of the following Appropriation Ordinance amendments in the Building and Structure Construction Tax Fund:
 1. Increase the Willow Glen Way: Guadalupe River Bridge appropriation by \$216,000.
 2. Decrease the Ending Fund Balance by \$216,000.

OUTCOME

Approval of the recommended actions provides a fair share of increased City funding as a result of higher than anticipated costs for the Willow Glen Way Bridge Replacement project. The benefits of the project are to improve the safety and integrity of a City bridge structure, improve pedestrian and bicycle access along Willow Glen Way, accommodate Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) plans for improving the flood control capacity of the Guadalupe River and allow for expansion of the City's creek trail system along the Guadalupe River.

BACKGROUND

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is responsible for inspecting transportation bridge structures throughout the State. Within the City of San José, the Willow Glen Way Bridge over the Guadalupe River has been assessed to be structurally deficient and not

in conformance with current State standards for seismic design. Accordingly, the bridge is warranted for replacement and is eligible for grant funding as part of the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation (HBRR) program. The bridge is also substandard with respect to facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists. Additionally, the District desires for the bridge to be replaced with a longer span to accommodate plans for flood control improvements along the Guadalupe River and for extension of a recreational creek trail.

In May 2003, Council approved a Cooperative Agreement with the District to define responsibilities and share costs for the Willow Glen Way Bridge Replacement project. The City secured a HBRR grant for the project which funds approximately 88.5% of the cost to replace the existing bridge. The City and District agreed to share costs for the local grant match (11.5%), for enhancing the pedestrian facilities (City responsibility) and for lengthening the bridge (District responsibility), as is consistent with cost sharing guidelines used by both agencies since 1976. The District was designated as the lead agency for project design and construction, due to the integration of the project with District's Upper Guadalupe River Flood Control Project.

In June 2005, Council approved a First Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement establishing the City's project cost share as an amount not to exceed \$434,700. On March 22, 2006, the District opened bids for construction of the project. The construction bids exceeded the project estimate in an amount that increases the City's project share. It is recommended that the City approve a Second Amendment to the agreement with the District to adjust the project cost share and allow the project to be constructed in 2006.

ANALYSIS

The District received four competitive bids for construction of the project. The lowest responsive bid exceeds the engineer's estimate by 30 percent. This bid result significantly exceeds the project contingency and increases the City cost share for the project from \$434,700 to \$505,000 (a 16% increase). The Cooperative Agreement between the City and the District requires City and District staffs to meet and confer to discuss the bid results if it is more than 10 percent above the engineer's estimate and to determine whether to reduce the scope of the project or to award the project.

On March 29, 2006, City and District staff met and agreed that the lowest responsive bid is reasonable based upon the current market condition. It was mutually agreed to support awarding the contract to the apparent low bidder. To rebid the project would require a project delay of one full year because of environmental restrictions on construction work within the Guadalupe River. This delay would likely result in further project cost escalation. It was also determined that a second amendment to the cost sharing agreement is necessary to account for the project cost increase, since the proposed City's cost share exceeds the amount authorized by the current agreement.

At the City's request, Caltrans has approved an increase in the project funding from the HBRR grant. Table 1 identifies the updated project funding responsibilities for the bridge replacement project.

Table 1 – Bridge Project Funding Responsibilities

Funding Source	Funding Amount
HBRR Grant	\$3,300,000
District Share	\$823,000
City Share	\$ 505,000
Total	\$ 4,628,000

The City has and will incur additional costs for project that supplement the City share (\$505,000) covered in the Cooperative Agreement with the District. These added costs include \$83,000 in past expenditures related to land acquisition for extending sidewalks adjacent to the bridge, as well as for project design coordination, and \$30,000 for future City project construction management coordination. Therefore, the total project cost to the City is \$618,000.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

City and District staffs have held numerous stakeholder workshops and community meetings to discuss project design details and impacts during construction. Last community meeting was held on March 29, 2006.

COORDINATION

The agreement amendment has been prepared by the Department of Transportation working in coordination with the City Attorney's Office and the City Manager's Budget Office.

COST IMPLICATIONS

The total cost of the project to the City is \$618,000. The City's funding share helps leverage approximately \$4,123,000 in project funding from other sources. The overall City share of the project cost is 13%. The City has paid \$50,000 from previous year budget allocations. The current appropriation for this project totals \$352,000. An increase in City funding is needed to address the City's proposed funding responsibilities. Therefore, an appropriation amendment is requested in the amount of \$216,000.

BUDGET REFERENCE

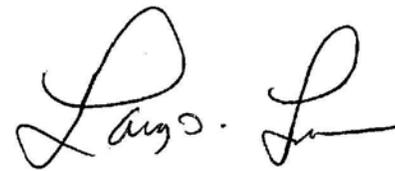
Fund #	Appn #	Appn. Name	RC #	Total Appn	Amt. for Contract	Adopted Budget Page	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
429	5979	Willow Glen Way: Guadalupe River Bridge	049143	\$352,000*	\$505,000	V-1116	10-18-05, 27580

* This amount includes the current year budget of \$259,000 and the carryover encumbrance of \$93,000. Budget actions are recommended in this document to add funding necessary to cover the amended agreement with the Santa Clara Valley Water District.

CEQA

Negative Declaration, PP98-01-012


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