



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: James R. Helmer

**SUBJECT: ROUTE 880/STEVENS CREEK
INTERCHANGE UPGRADE**

DATE: 06-03-08

Approved

Date

6/10/08

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 6
SNI AREA: NA

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the "First Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement between the City of San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority for the Interstate 280/880 and Stevens Creek Boulevard Interchange Improvement Project" extending the term of the agreement from June 30, 2008 to December 31, 2010, at no additional cost to the City.

OUTCOME

Approval of the First Amendment to the Agreement will extend the expiration date of the cooperative agreement to December 31, 2010 and allows VTA and City staff to develop a greater scope of improvements for the 880/Stevens Creek area to include upgrades to the 880/280 interchange and a potential new northbound Route 280 off-ramp at Winchester Boulevard. The increased project scope will better improve traffic circulation and economic vitality for the greater Winchester/ Stevens Creek area.

BACKGROUND

The Route 880/Stevens Creek Interchange Upgrade Project is identified by both the City Council and Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Board as a high priority project for future funding. The Project is included on the list of local priority projects contained in the Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2030. In 2006, the City and VTA executed a cooperation agreement to jointly fund and develop the 880/Stevens Creek project. The scope of work included preparation of a Caltrans Project Study Report, environmental clearance and preliminary engineering for the planned improvements. The City committed to a \$1.5 million funding share to initiate the project. The term of the agreement was through December 2007, and was extended through June 2008 by the City's Director of Transportation as provided for under the terms of the agreement.

ANALYSIS

In the course of developing the project and studying transportation deficiencies in the area, the need for a more comprehensive system of transportation improvements was identified. It was found that just upgrading the 880/Stevens Creek interchange would not fully address current and future traffic circulation needs in the area. Additionally, Caltrans was concerned about planning improvements to 880/Stevens Creek without the context of other needed freeway system improvements in the 280/880 area.

In response, a more comprehensive system of improvements has been developed that includes the 880/Stevens Creek interchange upgrade, improvements to the 280/880 interchange, and a potential new freeway off-ramp from northbound Route 280 to Winchester Boulevard. The expanded scope of work is estimated to cost \$104 million, up from the previous cost of approximately \$25 million for just 880/Stevens Creek improvements. The "comprehensive" 280/880/Stevens Creek/Winchester project is currently recommended by VTA staff as a funding priority for their update of VTP 2030, referred to as VTP 2035.

To address the expanded project work scope, the current cooperative agreement between the City and VTA is recommended to be amended. The City's overall funding contribution will remain the same at \$1.5 million. However, the term of the agreement is being extended to December 2010, to allow time for preparation of planning studies, environmental clearance and preliminary engineering for the comprehensive 280/880/Stevens Creek/Winchester project. The VTA will be using Federal grant funds previously allocated to the project to cover additional costs for the expanded work scope.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

This first amendment to the agreement will provide staff with the ability to develop a more comprehensive set of alternatives for the improvement of the 280/880/Stevens Creek/Winchester project area. At this time, there are no items for Council follow-up.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

- Criterion 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criterion 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**

- Criteria 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

This memorandum meets the requirements of Criteria 1 and, therefore, will be posted on the City's website for the City Council agenda.

COORDINATION

The development of this memorandum and the referenced amendment were coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

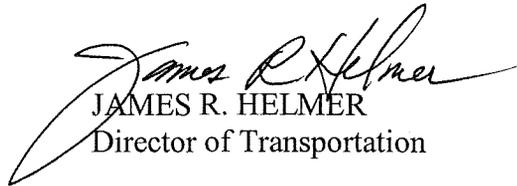
Not applicable

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action has no additional cost to City.

CEQA

Not a project.


JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

For questions please contact Ray Salvano, Regional Projects Manager, at 975-3706.

