



CITY OF MODESTO
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE OF MEETING:

April 4, 2023

Date: March 14, 2023

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Joseph P. Lopez, City Manager

FROM: Jessica Hill, Interim Director of Community and Economic Development

SUBJECT: WMH Corporation Agreement for Standiford Avenue at State Route 99 Interchange Improvement Project

CONTACT: Toby Wells, City Engineer, twells@modestogov.com, 209-571-5542

DESCRIPTION:

Consider approving a Design Services Agreement with WMH Corporation of San Jose, CA for the Standiford Avenue at State Route 99 Interchange Improvement Project in the amount of \$6,450,665, plus \$645,066 for additional services, if needed, for a total amount not to exceed \$7,095,731, and authorizing the City Manager, or his designee to execute the Agreement; and amending the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Capital Improvement Program project 101182 budget in the amount of \$3,500,000. (Funding Source: Streets Capital Facilities Fee and Regional Measure L Funds)

STRATEGIC PLAN ELEMENT:

This action for the Standiford Avenue at State Route 99 (SR99) Interchange Improvement Project is consistent with the Council's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan Goal D, Ensure Safe, Efficient and Reliable Infrastructure. Specifically, this item supports the City's goal to expand alternative modes of travel, improve transportation flow, and drive economic vitality.

BACKGROUND:

The Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange was constructed incrementally in response to changing demands and available funding over time. Now deficiencies are such that a complete overhaul is necessary to maintain flows into the future. As such, an analysis must be performed to understand the regional traffic impacts first and then look for ways to make improvements. Staff anticipates that this could result in significant changes to local roadways, with the end result a net increase in safety and efficiency for movement of goods and services throughout the vicinity of Standiford and SR99.

The initial direction from Caltrans to staff is the SR99 overcrossing needs to be reconstructed to accommodate 8 lanes of traffic on the SR99 mainline. This work is complicated by the presence of traffic signals at less than ideal spacing in the immediate vicinity of the interchange. Interchange reconstruction and roadway realignment will be further frustrated by the presence

of a major electrical substation and drainage facility in the northeast quadrant of the existing facility. This interchange also serves as a grade separated crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad and future expansion of the ACE Rail System.

On September 1, 2020, by Resolution No. 2020-340, Council approved amending the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget in the amount of \$1,098,000 for Project Initiation Document and Project Approval and Environmental Document phases for the Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project.

On September 1, 2020, by Resolution No. 2020-339, Council approved a Measure L Cooperative Agreement with Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG) funding up to \$1,098,000 of Measure L funds for the Project Initiation Document and Project Approval and Environmental Document phases for the Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project.

On April 6, 2021, by Resolution No. 2021-127, Council approved Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans for Project Initiation Document and Project Approval Environmental Document Phases of the Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this project is to reduce traffic congestion, improve regional and interregional traffic operation, and enhance safety on the SR99 highway and within the vicinity of the local transportation network of the Standiford Avenue at SR99 interchange through reconstruction.

StanCOG is the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency, the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the designated Council of Governments for Stanislaus County. StanCOG has designated the Standiford at SR99 Interchange as a priority project for delivery in Measure L's first 10 years. As a Measure L regional funding priority, this project is designated to receive up to \$1,098,000 of the regional project share of Measure L funds for this phase of the project. StanCOG will reimburse the City of Modesto for identified costs associated with development of this project. Per the StanCOG adopted 2022 Measure L Update, the project is allocated and additional \$6,948,000 for the future Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PSE) phase.

The first project phase is termed the Project Initiation Document (PID) phase. This is the first formal project phase in developing a solution for a specific transportation problem. The outcome of the project initiation process is a document that establishes a well-defined purpose-and-need statement, proposed project scope tied to a reliable cost estimate, and a schedule. Additionally, the use of State funds for capital improvements on the State Highway System (SHS) requires an approved PID. Any major work on the State Highway System regardless of how it is funded requires an approved PID.

The PID is a technical engineering report that documents the scope, cost, and schedule of a project. The PID is the product of the project scoping effort, becomes the record of the purpose-and-need for the project, and it defines the approach that will be taken to meet or reduce transportation deficiencies. The PID is a record of the existing information, initial assumptions, identified risks, and constraints that generated the development of the project work plan. The PID is used to obtain approval for inclusion of a project into a programming document or to get conceptual approval by Caltrans as a project-funded-by-others.

Caltrans requires development of a PID prior to approval to begin the environmental project phase or PA&ED. The Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase develops and establishes the State and Federal approvals necessary for the project to move to the final PS&E project phase. Approval of the PID, PA&ED, and PS&E phases are all milestone events that provide the basis for funding of subsequent phases concluding with the construction phase.

Committee approval of the proposed WMH Design Services Agreement is the first step towards Council approval and progression of the study and reconstruction of the Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project.

Following Council approval of the Agreement, staff will initiate the PID/PA&ED process with the consultant for those specific engineering services with the end result producing an approved Project Report and Environmental Document. When these first Project phases have been completed, staff will again return to Council with a recommendation for funding final design services that are required to produce a constructible set of plans and specifications.

On May 20, 2022, Staff solicited proposals to consultants for the Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project in compliance with Modesto Municipal Code section 8-3.204(a). The scope of design services includes:

- Project Management
- Project Initiation
- Project Approval and Environmental Document
- Survey/Mapping
- Right of Way Support
- Public Outreach

On August 2, 2022, five consulting firms submitted proposals. These proposals were received and evaluated based on the following qualifications: Project Understanding; Project Approach; Qualified Staffing; Prior Experience; Innovation; and Familiarity with State and Federal Project Compliance. The five submittals were reviewed by a multi-jurisdictional panel comprised of representatives from the City, Stanislaus County, and Caltrans. The proposals were ranked as follows:

- 1) WMH Corporation, San Jose
- 2) Kimley-Horn, Sacramento
- 3) AECOM, Sacramento
- 4) Michael Baker International, Walnut Creek
- 5) TYLIN International, Sacramento

On September 23, 2022, the three top-ranked firms were interviewed with ranking as shown below. This procurement is special in that it provides for the selection of two independent teams who will be tasked with Interchange Reconstruction Design. The first team is tasked with design of the Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project. Once a firm is scheduled for approval by Council, the staff will enter cost negotiations with the next highest rated proposing firm. When that process is completed, staff will again seek Council approval for design services for the SR99 at Briggsmore Interchange Reconstruction Project.

Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project / Consultant Ranking

- 1) WMH Corporation, San Jose
- 2) AECOM, Sacramento
- 3) Kimley-Horn, Sacramento

WMH's initial cost proposal estimate was \$5.5 Million. This cost proposal provided staffing resources for a Project that followed a Mitigated Negative Declaration approval with a 33-month duration. Due to the size, scope and potential impacts of the project, staff recommends anticipating the project will follow a more time intensive path via approval of an EIR/EIS document with a 39-month duration.

After a series of negotiation meetings, City staff and WMH agreed on a cost proposal of \$6,450,665 for the identified scope of work. In addition to \$6,450,665, staff recommends approval of a contingency budget of up to \$645,066 for additional services if needed. Per the contract, the City Manager will have the authority to approve these additional services up to, but not to exceed \$645,066. Any additional services above the \$645,066 would require an amendment and City Council approval.

In accordance with Modesto Municipal Code 8-3.204(a) Exceptions to Formal Bidding Requirements, this agreement is for professional services and, therefore, exempt from the bid requirement. Staff followed the Request For Proposal (RFP) process pursuant to Administrative Directive 3.1. Staff recommends approval of the agreement with WMH Corporation for the Standiford Avenue at SR99 Interchange Improvement Project.

The project schedule will be driven by the review of several regulatory agencies, such as Caltrans, but the approximate keystone milestone date are as follows:

<u>Current Schedule (approximate):</u>	<u>Date:</u>
Project Initiation Document	September 2023
PA&ED (Mitigated Negative Declaration)	October 2025
PA&ED (EIR/EIS)	April 2026

The PS&E and final project schedule will be determined after completion of the PA&ED process.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This Project is included in the City's Capital Facilities Fee (CFF) program. It is also included in the Measure L Strategic Plan managed by StanCOG. These initial phases of the project are supported by a combination of funding from both Measure L and CFF. The Project #101182 currently has \$2,500,000 of CFF funds budgeted and \$1,098,000 via Measure L Cooperative Agreement for the initial phase of work. The expenses for this project will be tracked in Oracle Project #101182 – Standiford SR-99 Interchange. The CFF program includes \$16,936,923 for the Standiford/Beckwith Interchange at SR-99. The resolution to amend the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Capital Improvement Program project 101182 budget in the amount of \$3,500,000 is attached for consideration to fully fund this phase of the project.

WMH Agreement	\$6,450,665
10% Additional Services, if needed	<u>\$645,066</u>
Total Agreement w/Additional Services	\$7,095,731

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This item was reviewed by the Economic Development Committee on March 6, 2023, and the Committee approved forwarding this item to Council for approval.

CEQA/NEPA REQUIREMENTS:

The environmental review of the project will be included in the PA&ED phase of the project.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Staff Recommendations:

Resolution approving a Design Services Agreement with WMH Corporation of San Jose, CA for the Standiford Avenue at State Route 99 Interchange Improvement Project in the amount of \$6,450,665, plus \$645,066 for additional services, if needed, for a total amount not to exceed \$7,095,731, and authorizing the City Manager, or his designee to execute the Agreement.

Resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Capital Improvement Program project 101182 budget in the amount of \$3,500,000 and authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to take the necessary steps to implement the provisions of this Resolution.

Approved by:

Jessica Hill, Interim Director of CEDD

Joseph P. Lopez, City Manager

Attachments:

1. Resolutions (2)
2. WMH Corporation Agreement
3. Appendix A: Required Scope of Work and Deliverables
4. Appendix H: Cost Proposal