

# **Board Report**

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority
One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room
Los Angeles, CA

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# AD HOC CONGESTION, HIGHWAY AND ROADS COMMITTEE JUNE 19, 2019

SUBJECT: SOUNDWALL PROGRAM FUNDING, PACKAGE 10

ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATION

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

CONSIDER:

- A. PROGRAMMING an additional \$968,356 for Soundwall Package 10 (Project); and
- B. AUTHORIZING the Chief Executive officer to execute a Funding Agreement with Caltrans to add \$968,356 to Soundwall Package 10 to cover the Supplemental NBSSRs, PS&E and Right of Way expenses for the Project to date.

#### **ISSUE**

Caltrans has expended a total of \$9,498,926 to prepare the Noise Barrier Scope Summary Report (NBSSR) and supplements; Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E); and perform Right of Way activities on the Project. The current budget is \$8,530,570 leaving a shortfall of \$968,356. The Project is on the Metro Soundwall List as a Phase 1, Priority 2 Project.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Caltrans completed the Package 10 PS&E and Right of Way work in 2012 with the standards in effect at that time and delivered the PS&E to Metro. Caltrans had also secured many of the Temporary Construction Easements (TCEs) for the Project.

The Project was nominated to be included in the Accelerated Regional Transportation Improvements (ARTI) project. The construction of Project was on hold while the evaluation process for ARTI was being conducted. After a lengthy process, ARTI was determined to be infeasible as a bundle of projects and Soundwall Package 10 was advanced as a standalone project with changes, including updating the PS&E to 2015 standards and specifications, adding new soundwall segments that were not identified in the original project scope, extending TCEs that expired, and obtaining new TCEs. Metro negotiated the budget for the Project with Caltrans based on savings from design and right of way budgets from Soundwall Packages 4 through 8. The final budget for the Project was set at \$8,530,570.

Three new soundwall segments were added to the Project scope including extending a former Package 7 soundwall on SR-134 in Toluca Lake, extending a former Package 4 soundwall on the westbound I-210 Santa Anita off-ramp in Arcadia and adding about 2,200 feet of soundwalls on eastbound I-210 east of Baldwin Ave in Arcadia.

### **DISCUSSION**

Package 4 soundwalls between Santa Anita Ave in Arcadia and California Ave in Monrovia were completed as of November 2013. Due to adverse geological conditions at the project site, foundations for the soundwalls needed to be redesigned from piles to spread footing, thereby increasing the cost of the project for additional design, technical support services and time adjustment for construction delays.

The location of Package 10 Project is adjacent to the Package 4 project. Due to similarities in terrain conditions between Packages 4 and 10, Caltrans revised the design of the foundations for Package 10 to avoid the delays and change orders in construction.

#### **DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT**

This action will not have any impact to the safety of Metro patrons.

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT

Upon approval of the recommendation, staff will identify and reallocate funds within the existing FY19 Highway Program budget to fund this action. The adoption of the recommendation will require Metro to program an additional \$968,356 in Proposition C 25% Streets and Highway funds to reimburse Caltrans.

Sufficient funds reside within the remaining FY19 budget to fund the additional programming request as well as anticipated retroactive invoice expenditures. A net zero transfer will be enacted to supplement the FY19 budget planned for this project which currently includes \$2 Million in Highway Program Subsidies - Cost Center 0442, Soundwalls Program Project 410040, Task 8410.20.10.

## Impact to Budget

There are no impacts to the budget. The source of funds to date for this Project has been Prop C 25% Streets and Highways funds. These funds are not eligible for bus and rail operation/capital expenses.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

The recommendation supports Strategic Plan Goal No.1. Soundwalls in Package 10 were warranted to be constructed as a part of the I-210 HOV lanes project at this location but were deferred. Construction of HOV lanes are consistent with Metro's Strategic Plan Goal No.1 to provide high

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quality mobility options that enable people to spend less time traveling.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

The Board could choose to not approve the recommendation but Caltrans would not be reimbursed for the work they have performed. Caltrans does not have a fund source that they can apply to soundwall projects.

### **NEXT STEPS**

If approved, staff will prepare the Funding Agreement with Caltrans to provide the funding for the expenses incurred.

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