

BOARD COMMUNICATION: YOLO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

350 Industrial Way, Woodland, CA 95776---- (530) 661-0816

Topic: Yolo 80 Managed Lanes MOU and Funding Application	Agenda Item#:	6
	Agenda Type:	Info/Discussion
Prepared By: A. Bernstein; B. Abbanat		Attachments: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
		Meeting Date: October 10, 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt two resolutions related to the Yolo 80 Managed Lanes Project:

1. Resolution 2022-16 authorizing the Executive Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Caltrans regarding roles and responsibilities;
2. Resolution 2022-17 authorizing the Executive Director to support a \$103 million application to the California Transportation Commission’s 2022 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP).

BACKGROUND:

In summer 2021, YCTD, in partnership with Caltrans, was awarded an \$86 million federal INFRA grant to construct approximately 17 center-line miles of managed lanes in both directions on Interstate 80 (I-80) and United States 50 (US-50) in Yolo County and portions of Sacramento County to alleviate bottlenecks and address an increasing capacity constraint.

In January 2021, the YCTD Board of Directors adopted a set of goals for the project that include:

- Support achievement of state and regional climate goals by limiting VMT increases and maximizing VMT reduction strategies;
- Increase transit ridership and mode share;
- Increase safety and ease of bicycle travel on the existing Yolo Causeway bicycle path, including connecting routes in the cities of West Sacramento and Davis;
- Advance transportation equity by minimizing project burdens and maximizing project benefits for low-income communities;
- Improve peak hour travel time on I-80 while reducing the use of local streets and roads for regional trips;
- Increased coordination with Solano County, Caltrans District 4, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on interregional trips;
- Improve traffic flow by utilizing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies such as ramp metering; and
- Establish a highway management system that can be replicated and integrated regionwide.

Based upon these goals, an Ad Hoc Committee was established to coordinate with Caltrans on the Project. Over the past ten months, our discussions have focused on several key priorities for YCTD, including:

1. Our preferred management strategy for the new lane is a tolled lane with a robust equity program and transit investments funded by toll revenues;
2. The Notice of Preparation for CEQA/NEPA should be revised to reflect the preferred project description as well as climate change, transportation equity and VMT mitigation as key consideration for the project;
3. YCTD and Caltrans should develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which defines and clarifies project roles and responsibilities between YCTD and Caltrans;
4. Pending the resolution of the first three issues, the partners should work together pursue opportunities to fully fund the project.

Through our coordination over the last ten months, YCTD and Caltrans have made great strides on all four issues. We have reached alignment that the preferred project is a tolled managed lane. The Notice of Preparation (Attachment 5) has been revised and submitted to the CEQA Clearinghouse. Caltrans and YCTD staff have reached agreement on a compromise Memorandum of Understanding (Attachment 2).

Caltrans headquarters is supportive of the shift in direction for this project and is prepared to recommend that the CTC award \$103 million in 2022 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) funds to construct the first phase of the project.

The overall project (as described in the Notice of Preparation) consists of tolled managed lanes on I-80 from Solano/Yolo County line to El Camino Avenue, and on US 50 from I-80/US 50 separation to I-5 in Sacramento County, for a total length of approximately 17 centerline or 34 lane miles, with direct connectors. Caltrans also proposes to extend the existing Class IV pedestrian/bicycle facility east of the I-80 Causeway and construct a 300-space mobility hub with transit transfer station (modernized park-n-ride).

If we are awarded the TCEP funds of \$103 million, we will have sufficient funding to construct an initial phase consisting of tolled managed lanes on I-80 from the Solano/Yolo County line to the I-80/US 50 separation for a total of approximately 10 centerline miles or 20 lane miles. The mobility hub and bicycle facility improvements will also be completed as part of this initial phase.

With all of these rapid developments, staff is asking the Board to approve two resolutions:

- Resolution 2022-16 (Attachment 1) will authorize the Executive Director to execute the MOU (Attachment 2).
- Resolution 2022-17 (Attachment 3) authorizes the Executive Director to support a \$103 million application to the California Transportation Commission's 2022 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) (Attachment 4).

The Notice of Preparation (Attachment 5) is now final and is attached for informational purposes only.

Attachments

1. Resolution 2022-16 – Memorandum of Understanding
2. Yolo 80 Managed Lanes Caltrans / YCTD MOU
3. Resolution 2022-17 -
4. Cover Letter for TCEP application
5. Revised Notice of Preparation

YOLO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. R 2022-16

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CALTRANS FOR THE YOLO 80 MANAGED LANES PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD) has received an Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant in the amount of \$86 million for construction of the Yolo 80 Corridor Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, the final scope, funding, and design of the PROJECT is not determined. The purpose of this MOU is to define the roles and responsibilities of YCTD and CALTRANS on the project; and

WHEREAS, both YCTD and Caltrans have a critical role to play and the project cannot proceed without a strong partnership between the two agencies; and

WHEREAS, close coordination and clearly defined roles and responsibilities related to project planning, alternatives analysis, environmental review and mitigations, design and operations, and funding are required to successfully deliver this project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED, ORDERED, AND FOUND by the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Transportation District, to authorize the YCTD Executive Director to execute the Yolo 80 Managed Lanes Project Memorandum of Understanding with Caltrans.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Transportation District, County of Yolo, State of California, this 10th day of October, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Don Saylor, Chair

Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Mimi Koh, Clerk

Board of Directors

Approved as to Form:

Hope P. Welton, District Counsel

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

October 5, 2022

3-YOL-80/50 PM VAR

This is a “Memorandum of Understanding” between the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Yolo County Transportation District (District) for the development of the Yolo 80 Managed Lanes Project (Project).

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines general understandings and responsibilities for the project. It is not intended to authorize funding or project effort. Funding commitments providing for the deposit of funds for specific work or project effort committing machine or personnel time will be covered by one or more separate cooperative agreements as may be outlined herein.

The following responsibilities have been identified and are proposed to be agreed to by both parties:

1. Caltrans will be the “Lead Agency” for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Caltrans will prepare the Environmental Document (ED) to meet the requirements of CEQA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
2. All administrative drafts including the Draft and Final ED shall be subject to prior review by the District before being released for public comment.
3. Caltrans will be the “Lead Agency” on ED outreach. The District will participate and will be the lead on coordination with District member agencies.
4. Caltrans will be the “Lead Agency” on development of the Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (Plan). Administrative drafts shall be subject to prior review by the District before being released for public comment. Roles and responsibilities for mitigation and monitoring will be mutually agreed to by the parties as part of the Plan development.
5. Caltrans will be the “Lead Agency” on Final Project Scope, Budget, and Funding Summary; YCTD has the right to approve.
6. Caltrans and the District agree that without predetermining the alternatives analyses, environmental analyses, or other analyses, the envisioned Project will be tolled managed lanes system with a robust equity program and transit investments funded by toll revenues.
7. Caltrans and the District generally have agreed on the Project description and alternatives, as reflected in the Notice of Preparation for the Project. Any

modification to that statement shall be agreed to by both PARTIES.

8. All phases of the project, from inception through construction will be developed by Caltrans in accordance with all policies, procedures, practices and standards that Caltrans would normally follow.
9. Caltrans and the District agree on the following project goals:
 - Support achievement of state and regional climate goals by limiting VMT increases and maximizing VMT reduction strategies;
 - Improve access to transit and increase transit mode share;
 - Improve safety and ease of bicycle travel on the existing Yolo Causeway bicycle path;
 - Advance transportation equity by minimizing the project burdens and maximizing project benefits for low-income communities;
 - Improve peak periods travel time on I-80 while reducing the use of local streets and roads for regional trips;
 - Increased coordination with Solano County, Caltrans District 4, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on interregional trips;
 - Improve traffic flow by utilizing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies such as ramp metering.
10. The District has received a Federal Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant in the amount of \$85.9 million for the Project. This funding will be utilized for PA/ED, PS&E, ROW and/or Construction.
11. For the purposes of the Federal Funds, Caltrans is considered the “Recipient” for project delivery purposes and will be the responding agency for all federal administrative documentation required of the Project. The District is the “Subrecipient”.
12. The utilization and expenditure of INFRA grant funds will be memorialized in one or more cooperative agreements.
13. Caltrans and the District will jointly research funding/financing opportunities and options for the project and pursuit of such opportunities will be mutually agreed to by both parties.
14. Prior to pursuing any specific funding/financing, Caltrans and the District will mutually agree upon the role and responsibility of each PARTY for the following:
 - Scope and budget for grant applications;
 - Writing and submitting grant applications;

- Advocacy;
- Grant administration, including reporting and compliance;
- Oversight on how funds are spent/allocated to ensure consistency with project goals.

15. Caltrans and the District agree to hold monthly meetings to brief organizational leadership and obtain policy input and direction on the Project. Both Caltrans and the District agree that additional staff at their discretion may be included and that participation by additional third parties could be included by agreement.

AMARJEET S BENIPAL
District Director



Autumn Bernstein
Executive Director
Yolo County Transportation District

YOLO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. R 2022-17

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN COVER LETTER FOR \$103 MILLION APPLICATION TO THE TRADE CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (TCEP).

WHEREAS, the Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD) has received an Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant in the amount of \$86 million for construction of the Yolo 80 Corridor Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, additional funding is needed to construct the first phase of the project, consisting of tolled managed lanes on I-80 from the Solano/Yolo County line to the I-80/US 50 separation for a total of approximately 10 centerline miles or 20 lane miles, along with a mobility hub/park and ride and bicycle facility improvements;

WHEREAS, YCTD and Caltrans have reached alignment on a number of outstanding issues related to the project;

WHEREAS, Caltrans has recommended this project for an SB 1 Cycle 3 Trade Corridors Enhancement (TCEP) Program award that would, if fully funded, allow construction to begin;

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED, ORDERED, AND FOUND by the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Transportation District, to authorize the YCTD Executive Director to support the \$103 million application to the TCEP program, including signing a cover letter for the application;

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Transportation District, County of Yolo, State of California, this 10th day of October, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Don Saylor, Chair

Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Mimi Koh, Clerk

Board of Directors

Approved as to Form:

Hope P. Welton, District Counsel