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September 10, 2024

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: **Authorization for the Director of the Public Works Agency's Roads & Transportation Department to Proceed with Planning on Five (5) Storm Damage Repair Projects in the Unincorporated Ventura County: Matilija Canyon Road Mile Post 0.30 to 0.52; Matilija Canyon Road Mile Post 2.25; Lockwood Valley Road Mile Post 1.75 & 12.69; Bridge Road Bridge #442; Yerba Buena Road Mile Post 0.93, 1.94 & 2.61; Supervisorial Districts 1 and 2.**

Recommendations:

Authorize the Director of the Public Works Agency's Roads & Transportation Department (PWART) to proceed with planning on five (5) storm damage repair projects in the unincorporated Ventura County: Matilija Canyon Road Mile Post 0.30 to 0.52; Matilija Canyon Road Mile Post 2.25; Lockwood Valley Road Mile Post 1.75 & 12.69; Bridge Road Bridge #442; Yerba Buena Road Mile Post 0.93, 1.94 & 2.61. Locations are shown as Exhibit 1 (Project Listings) and Exhibit 2 (Location Maps).

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

There are no additional costs associated with this Board action.

Discussion:

In the Winter of 2023 and 2024, the County's roads experienced a series of intense storms which brought substantial rain to the unincorporated area. Heavy rains caused multiple mudslides, slope erosions, and failed culverts including damaged roadways and bridges. Public Works Agency Roads & Transportation (PWA-RT) quickly began working to restore county facilities and access to the road network. Although several emergency repairs have been completed to date, PWA-RT staff is still actively working toward permanent repairs caused by these severe storm events.

Five (5) storm damage repair projects are currently in design which require minor to major permanent restorations depending on the severity of damage. Temporary repairs have



been made to maintain single lane road access for residents at these locations. The locations and summary of the extent of damage is provided below.

1. **Matilija Canyon Road MP 0.30 to 0.52 Slope Repair Project**

During the 2023 storm events, severe rainstorms caused slope failure beneath the roadway. A longitudinal crack has formed in the middle of the eastbound lane of Matilija Road and a portion of the pavement is sliding away from the upslope side of the road. Repairs consist of slope repairs, construction of retaining wall, pavement repairs and other pertinent work required to stabilize the slope. These repairs will allow for reopening both lanes of Matilija Canyon Road from PM 0.30 to 0.52.

2. **Matilija Canyon Road MP 2.25 Slope Repair Project**

During the 2024 storm events, the roadway washed out at MP 2.25 causing major slope failure. Repairs consist of roadway reconstruction that involves reconstructing and armoring the embankment, reconstructing the shoulder and structural section of roadway to allow for the reopening of Matilija Canyon Road at MP 2.25.

3. **Lockwood Valley Road MP 1.75 & MP 12.69 Emergency Repairs Project**

During the 2023 storm events, at MP 1.75, approximately 250 linear feet of roadway was washed out by the Cayuma River. The shoulder and subgrade have eroded and the pavement section comprised of base and layers of asphalt has collapsed. At MP 1.75 repairs consists of the construction of a new Rock-Rip-Rap Revetment, reconstruction of the shoulder and roadway, to allow the reopening of Lockwood Road. At MP 12.69 repairs consist of slope and culvert repair.

4. **Bridge Road Bridge #442 Slope Repair Project**

The existing slope on the east and west banks of the creek has eroded leaving the bridge structure compromised. Repairs consist of armoring the west bank of the creek upstream and downstream with concrete blocks that will be backfilled by concrete slurry. On the east bank beneath the bridge, work includes placing shotcrete on the entire bank beneath the bridge. These repairs are needed to stabilize the bridge structure.

5. **Yerba Buena Road MP 0.93, 1.94 and 2.61 Slope Repair Project**

Repairs are needed to address slope failures and include stabilizing the slope and repairing the embankment, asphalt pavement repairs, shoulder work and guardrail repair and/or replacement.

The two (2) Matilija Canyon Road and Lockwood Valley Road storm damage repair projects qualify for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funding. PWA-RT has been working diligently with these organizations to ensure that most of these costs can be reimbursed to the county once the repairs are completed. The remaining two storm damage repair projects, Bridge Road Bridge and Yerba Buena Road, are ineligible for funding since damages surfaced after FEMA's incident period.



These storm damage repair projects are complex in nature and involve environmental/regulatory clearances to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) mandates. This can take more than a year for approval and can further delay construction.

Professional consulting services will be required for site specific engineering studies, surveys, and environmental/regulatory clearances to assist in complying with CEQA and NEPA mandates. None of these storm damage repair projects have been previously approved by your Board. To provide quick delivery of these services, PWA-RT requests your Board authorize planning for each of the storm damage projects listed which will provide the repairs needed to restore the facilities to pre-storm condition.

This Board action will allow timely procurement of planning consultant services with contract values under \$200,000 without having to receive Board for approval each time.

Strategic Plan:

This item contributes to the Board's 2024-2027 strategic priority to provide:

- I. Healthy, safe, and resilient communities through
 2. Maintaining high-performing public safety services.
 3. Promoting community resilience and strengthening our ability to withstand and recover from disaster or adversity.

- II. Reliable infrastructure and sustainability through
 1. Maintaining and improving dependable public resources to serve the needs of our diverse communities.
 3. Investing in sustainable infrastructure, renewable energy, and preservation of our natural resources.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel.

If you have any questions, please call the undersigned at (805) 654-2077.

Sincerely,



Anitha Balan, P.E.
Director,
Roads & Transportation

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – Project Listing
- Exhibit 2 – Location Maps

