

Central Services
Joan Araujo, Director

Engineering Services
Christopher Cooper, Director

Roads & Transportation
Christopher Kurgan, Director

Water & Sanitation
Joseph Pope, Director

Watershed Protection
Glenn Shephard, Director

October 11, 2022

Board of Supervisors
Ventura County Watershed Protection District
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93003

Subject: **Approval of, and Ratification of the Execution of, the Grant Agreement Between the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and the Wildlife Conservation Board 2021 Wildlife Corridor and Fish Passage Grant Program Funding for an Amount of \$1,310,000 for the Camino Cielo Bridge Replacement Design Planning Project; Authorization for the Auditor-Controller to Process the Necessary Accounting Transactions in Road Fund for Fiscal Year 2022-23, and Waive Policy of Not Including Attorney's Fee Provision in County Contracts. Supervisorial District 1, WPD Zone 1 (RECOMMENDATION NO. 2 REQUIRES 4/5THS VOTE).**

Recommendations:

1. Approve and ratify the execution of the grant agreement between Ventura County Watershed Protection District (District) and the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) 2021 Wildlife Corridor and Fish Passage Grant funding for an amount of \$1,310,000 for the Camino Cielo Bridge Replacement Design Project (Project) (Exhibit 3);
2. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the necessary accounting transactions in Road Fund - S010 Fiscal Year 2022-23. (4/5th vote required):
INCREASE Unit 4080-4083 Intergovernmental Revenue \$1,310,000
INCREASE Unit 4080-4083 Services and Supplies \$1,310,000
3. Waive policy of not including attorney's fee provision in County contracts.

Reason for Ratification:

On May 15, 2022, the District was notified that this project would be placed on the WCB Board Agenda for August 25, 2022 for approval of funding. Because WCB requires execution of the grant agreement at that meeting, and because they sent the draft agreement to the District on August 2, there was insufficient time to request your Board's approval for the District Director to execute the agreement. The District sent the draft



agreement to County Counsel for approval upon receipt. The District executed the agreement with prior notification and approval of County Counsel and the CEO's Office.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	WCB and Road Fund
Funding Match Required:	None
Impact on Other Departments:	Road Fund

<u>Summary of Revenues & Costs:</u>	<u>FY 2022-23</u>	<u>FY 2023-24-2025-26</u>
Revenue:	\$ 193,000	\$ 1,117,000
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 191,675	\$ 1,100,950
Indirect/Agency Dept.	\$ 7,800	\$ 95,425
Indirect/County CAP	\$ 525	\$ 6,425
Total Costs	\$ 200,000	\$ 1,202,800
Net District Costs	\$ 7,000	\$ 85,800
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0

Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections

Current FY 2022-23 Budget Projection for Road Fund – Unit 4083				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$ 7,359,000	\$13,303,841	\$13,303,841	\$0
Revenue	\$ 5,229,300	\$ 5,229,300	\$ 5,229,300	\$0
Net Cost	\$ 2,130,200	\$ 8,074,541	\$ 8,074,541	\$0

Revenue and appropriations will be available in the FY 2022-23 PWA Roads and Transportation (RT) budget after approval of Recommendation of No. 2. Sufficient revenue and appropriations will be included in the RT budgets for Fiscal Year 2023-24 through Fiscal Year 2025-26, as appropriate.

WCB notified the District that it has added 10% contingency funding to our original request of \$1,191,000. This contingency funding is to be used only with prior approval of WCB and when justified by increased costs of the approved project.

Discussion:

The Project will complete the final design plans, specifications, and cost estimates for a new bridge across the Ventura River near the intersection of Camino Cielo Road and State Highway 33. Located approximately one mile downstream of the obsolete, sediment-laden Matilija Dam, these "shovel ready" design plans will enable construction of a new bridge to replace an existing three-cell culvert which is regularly overwhelmed by



seasonal flows. The proposed Project will include the following: (a) Value Engineering (VE) review of the current preliminary design for the replacement bridge and associated elements; (b) a revised preliminary design based on the VE review; (c) associated CEQA updates and completion of up to 70% design plans based on the revised preliminary design; and (d) completion of 90% and final design plans based on the 70% design. See Exhibits 1 and 2 for the project vicinity and location maps.

Grant administration work tasks including the coordination of the preparation and submittal of quarterly progress reports and invoices as well as the final project close-out report will be performed by the District in close consultation with Central Services' Fiscal division. RT will assist the District by overseeing the design phase of this project through completion. Grant-eligible work task expenditures incurred by the District and RT will be reimbursed by the Wildlife Conservation Board in accordance with applicable provisions of the grant agreement.

A new bridge at Camino Cielo Road is one of six essential downstream infrastructure components of the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project (MDERP). The MDERP is a watershed-scale initiative to safely remove the obsolete Matilija Dam after a high-flow sediment release, enabling the re-wilding of Matilija Creek upstream of the current barrier to benefit federally endangered southern California steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and other species in the Ventura River watershed. Matilija Dam is on CDFW's 2019 Fish Passage Priorities List (#719058), and a new bridge at Camino Cielo Road must be completed (along with other essential MDERP components) before Matilija Dam can be removed.

The Agreement (Section 7.5) includes an attorney's fee provision; therefore, it is necessary that your board waive the policy of not including such provisions in County contracts.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If there are any questions regarding this item, please contact me at (805) 654-2040.

Sincerely,



Glenn Shephard P.E.
Director

Attachment:

- Exhibit 1 – Project Vicinity Map
- Exhibit 2 – Project Location Map
- Exhibit 3 – Agreement

