

Central Services  
**Joan Araujo**, DirectorEngineering Services  
**Christopher Cooper**, DirectorRoads & Transportation  
**Christopher Kurgan**, DirectorWater & Sanitation  
**Joseph Pope**, DirectorWatershed Protection  
**Glenn Shephard**, Director

February 28, 2023

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

**Subject: Approval of the Reimbursement Agreement Preliminary Engineering Services (Agreement) between Union Pacific Railroad Company (Railroad) and the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (District) for the Ventura River Levee (VR-1) Rehabilitation project; Authorization for the Director of the Public Works Agency, or His Designee, to Approve and Sign the Agreement not to exceed the amount of \$225,000; Project No. P6081020; Supervisorial District No. 1.**

**Recommendations:**

1. Authorize the Director of the Public Works Agency, or his designee, to approve, sign and execute the subject agreement between Union Pacific Railroad Company (Railroad) and the District for the technical and engineering review of the proposed flood control improvements at the intersection of VR-1 levee and the railroad tracks not to exceed the amount of \$225,000, for the Ventura River (VR-1) Levee Rehabilitation project, Project No. P6081020.

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**

Mandatory: No  
Source of Funding: Watershed Protection District Zone 1  
Funding Match Required: No  
Impact on Other Department(s): None

**Summary of Revenue and Total Costs:**

	<b><u>FY 2022-23</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2023-24</u></b>
Revenue:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 125,000	\$ 100,000
Indirect – Agency/Dept.	\$ 0	\$ 0
Indirect – County CAP	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Costs	\$ 125,000	\$ 100,000



Net Costs	\$	125,000	\$	100,000
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$	0	\$	0

Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections:

<b>Current FY 2022-23 Budget Projection for Watershed Protection District Zone 1 – Unit 4211</b>				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriation	\$6,719,500	\$11,114,793	\$8,134,900	\$ 2,979,893
Revenue	\$6,600,900	\$ 8,262,409	\$6,661,800	\$(1,600,609)
Net Cost	\$ 118,600	\$ 2,852,384	\$1,473,100	\$ 1,379,284

Sufficient appropriations are included in the FY 2022-23 Projected Budget. Sufficient appropriations will be included in the FY 2023-24 Budget as appropriate.

**Discussion:**

The proposed project provides for design engineering services to improve and upgrade the Ventura River Levee (VR-1) system located in the City of Ventura, Ventura County. The approximate 2.65-mile-long levee system extends along the eastern bank of the Ventura River from the Pacific Ocean (downstream limit) to the confluence with the Cañada de San Joaquin where it extends east along the southern bank of the Cañada de San Joaquin for approximately 1,000 feet before it terminates into high ground (upstream limit). See Exhibits 1 and 2 for project vicinity and location maps.

On March 14, 2017, your Board approved acceptance of a \$3,547,863 Local Levee Assistance Program (LLAP) grant from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for two Local Levee Evaluation and two Local Levee Critical Repair Projects. VR-1 is one of the two projects for which these funds were awarded.

On June 20, 2017, your Board approved a contract with Michael Baker International (MBI) to perform and complete the final design including construction plans, specifications, construction schedule, and estimates. The contract also specified engineering services which included data collection, topographic survey, geotechnical investigations, river hydraulics, sediment transport and scour, risk and uncertainty, interior drainage, preliminary and final design; preparation of construction plans, specifications, construction schedule, estimates, and stake holders' coordination (i.e., Caltrans, Union Pacific Railroad, City of Ventura, Army Corps of Engineers, etc.). Currently, MBI is working towards 90 percent plans and specifications.

The Agreement provides for the Railroad's technical and engineering review of the proposed flood control improvements at the intersection of the VR-1 levee and the railroad tracks, see Exhibit 3. The main component of the improvements at this location is a flood



control sliding gate to prevent flooding on the landward side of the levee during a 100 year-storm event. It is also expected that the Railroad may request some of their existing infrastructure (i.e., track signs, warning signals, crossing overhead, etc.) to be upgraded and permit the District's project plans as it moves forward with design of said flood control improvements.

The Railroad estimated that the cost of their engineering review will be approximately \$225,000 and the Watershed Protection District determined it to be a reasonable cost for the projected work. The District will be invoiced by the Railroad for labor hours attributed to their review as the project continues to final design. Therefore, the District is seeking approval by your Board to execute the attached UPRR agreement (Exhibit 3) in the amount \$125,000 for FY23 and the remainder of the funds in the amount of \$100,000 for FY24 to move forward with the proposed improvements where the levee and railroad tracks meet.

The District is currently preparing Public Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documenting the potential impacts of the proposed project. The Public Draft EIR will be released for public review in 2023, followed by preparation of a Final EIR and submitted to the Board of Supervisors, acting as the District Board, for the certification decision.

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

If you have any questions concerning this item, please contact the undersigned at (805) 654-2040.

Sincerely,



Glenn Shephard, P.E.  
Director, Watershed Protection District

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – Vicinity Map
- Exhibit 2 – Location Map
- Exhibit 3 – Reimbursement Agreement Preliminary Engineering Services

