



REPORT TO COUNCIL City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
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Consent
November 25, 2008

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Agreement: Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account and Establishment of Capital Improvement Projects (T15098700 and T15098800)

Location/Council District: Downtown Railyards, Central City, District 1.

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution:** 1) authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute an agreement with the California Transportation Commission and California Department of Transportation; 2) establishing the 6th Street Extension Project (T15098800); and 3) establishing the 7th Street Extension Tunnel Project (T15098700).

Contact: Fran Halbakken, Operations Manager, (916) 808-7194

Presenters: None

Department: Transportation

Division: Office of the Director

Organization No: 15001041

Description/Analysis

Issue: The City was awarded \$17.9 million in Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account funds (HRCSA) toward construction of the 6th Street Extension and the 7th Street Extension Tunnel projects through the downtown Railyards. Execution of baseline agreements is the first step necessary to secure the funds.

Policy Considerations: The action requested is consistent with the City of Sacramento Strategic Plan goal of enhancing livability.

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): This report concerns administrative activities that will not have a significant effect on the environment, and does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA [CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061 (b) (3); 15378 (b) (2)]. Activities funded in part or whole with grant funds will undergo appropriate environmental review.

Sustainability Considerations: Both the 6th & 7th Street projects are related to the relocation of the tracks which will contribute to the development of the Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility and improving opportunities for public transit and passenger rail operations. The 7th Street project removes the existing sidewalks and bike lanes and provides a separate undercrossing for pedestrians and bicyclists. The 7th Street project is needed to provide room for Regional Transit's Light Rail extension project through the Railyards area.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: Execution of this agreement is necessary to continue work on the Track Relocation project and the initial phase of Railyards area infrastructure.

Financial Considerations: Total funding for the 6th & 7th Street projects (T15098800 and T15098700) is estimated to be approximately \$31 million. The City applied for and has been recommended to receive \$17.9 million in HRCSA funds as part of the State's Proposition 1B program. A future report will be brought forward to appropriate this funding. The local match for these funds will be provided by Thomas Enterprises.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Not applicable at this time.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
Francesca L. Halbakken
Operations Manager

Approved by: 
Jerry Way
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:


Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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Attachment 1

Background Information:

An initial phase of the Sacramento Intermodal Transportation Facility (SITF) project is to relocate and straighten the mainline Union Pacific freight and passenger rail tracks that pass through the Sacramento Railyards and serve the Sacramento Valley Station. These improvements will allow for increased capacity for both freight trains and passenger service on the shared Union Pacific line between Nevada and the Sacramento region, with additional benefits to Amtrak Capitol Corridor service between the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento.

In December 2006, City Council approved the Track Finance Agreement between the City and Thomas Enterprises that provided for the City to be responsible for \$40 million of project cost with the balance to be shared by Thomas Enterprises and the City.

In December 2007, the City Council certified the Railyards Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and approved the Railyards Specific Plan and development project. The track relocation and roadway network were included in the EIR at a project specific level.

The preliminary design of the track relocation project has been underway since early 2008. In accordance with the various track relocation agreements, planned crossings of the new track easement, such as 6th & 7th Street, must be constructed coincident with the track relocation project. The projects are scheduled for construction in summer of 2009.

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT FOR THE STATE HIGHWAY-RAILROAD CROSSING SAFETY ACCOUNT FUNDS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

BACKGROUND

- A. The City was awarded \$17.9 million in State Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account Funds (HRCSA) towards the 6th Street Extension and 7th Street Extension Tunnel projects. An agreement needs to be established with the California Transportation Commission and California Department of Transportation for programming those funds.
- B. Thomas Enterprises will provide the City of Sacramento match funding for the project.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. The City Manager or designee is authorized to execute various Agreements as required with the California Transportation Commission and California Department of Transportation to allocate HRCSA funds (Fund 3704) to the 6th Street Extension Project (T15098800) and the 7th Street Extension Tunnel Project (T15098700).
- Section 2. The 6th Street Extension Project (T15098800) is established as a new Capital Improvement Project.
- Section 3. The 7th Street Extension Tunnel Project (T15098700) is established as a new Capital Improvement Project.