



Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, July 12, 2022

TO: City Council

FROM: PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR CALUBAQUIB
JOSEPH MEDINA, PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH CALTRANS FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
OF CLEAN CALIFORNIA BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT ON STATE
ROUTES 129 AND 152

STATEMENT OF ISSUES:

Cooperative agreement 05-0404 with Caltrans for design and construction of Clean California highway beautification project on State Routes 129 and 152 with the City contributing \$230,000. Beautification projects within the State Right of Way require and partnership with Caltrans.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution:

- 1) Approving a Cooperative Agreement 05-0404 with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the Clean California Highway Beautification Project with the City contributing a not-to-exceed amount of \$230,000; and
- 2) Appropriating \$230,000 from Capital Improvement Accounts: 0150-901-7855-14920 (\$150,000) and 0283-670-7820-15067 (\$80,000)

DISCUSSION:

The State's Clean California program provides opportunities for local agencies to partner with Caltrans on improvements within State road right of way. State representatives have been working with City staff to identify ways to beautify portions of State Route 129 and 152 by improving existing median landscaping and irrigation facilities and installing art work.

Identified as the Clean California Highway Beautification Project, this project will rejuvenate existing landscaping and hardscape in the highway medians in the City of Watsonville to create a more aesthetically pleasing downtown boulevard, enhance driver experience, improve neighborhood livability, and support local economic vitality.

Improvements include:

- New tree plantings along medians and side landscapes on Routes 152 and 129.
- Augment existing drought tolerant plant species already established and adapted to their current microclimate by reshaping/enhancing site conditions, removing dead and

declining plants and adding colorful ground cover. New plant installations will be drought tolerant (Plant Factor of 0.3 and below).

- Installation of decomposed granite along border areas to give color contrast and aid in maintenance practices.
- Installations of new low water use irrigation conforming to Stage 2 water restrictions from the City of Watsonville. (Less than 40% of Reference Evapotranspiration).
- Installing multiple artistic features including mosaic medallions, a mural on the retaining wall between Progress Ave. and Clifford Ave. and painted utility boxes along SR129 and Hwy 152.

The project is scheduled to go out to bid late 2022 with construction due to begin early 2023.

Per the proposed Cooperative Agreement, Caltrans is the sponsor and implementing agency for the project, while the City is contributing a not to exceed amount of \$230,000 to be used to augment this project. Caltrans will design and construct the project that is estimated to cost \$1,256,745. Maintenance of the improvements and will continue to be performed by the City.

Prior to beginning work on this project, Caltrans requests that the City execute the proposed Cooperative Agreement

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The proposed Cooperative Agreement and project are consistent with Strategic Plan Priorities:
3-Infrastructure & Environment
5-Coimmunity Engagement & Well-Being

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The \$230,000 City share of this Cooperative Agreement shall be appropriated from Accounts: 0150-901-7855-14920 (\$150,000) and 0283-670-7820-15067 (\$80,000). These funds were already budgeted for median improvements on Routes 152 and 129.

Total Project Cost Estimate- \$1,256,745.22

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The Council could choose to not approve the contract and project would not move forward or would need to be scaled back.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

Attachment A- Site Map

Attachment B- Site Map – Simplified

Attachment C- Retaining Wall Art Examples

Attachment D- Mosaic Medallion and Utility Box Examples