



COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: 9/17/07

ITEM NO: 6

DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

FROM: PAMELA JACOBS, INTERIM TOWN MANAGER

P. Jacobs

SUBJECT: PPW JOB NO. 05-17 – HIGHWAY 9 SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 06-14

ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE HIGHWAY 9 SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ADVERTISE THE PROJECT FOR BID

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt resolution approving plans and specifications for the Highway 9 Safety Improvement Project and authorize staff to advertise the project for bid.

BACKGROUND:

To improve bicycle and pedestrian safety within the Highway 9 corridor, the Town of Los Gatos, City of Saratoga, and City of Monte Sereno applied for and received a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant for a pedestrian and bicycle safety enhancement project in 2005. This project is a multi-jurisdictional effort to improve safety of all motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Highway 9 corridor is part of the State’s “Scenic Highway” network and is attractive to bicyclists because it connects to numerous desirable destinations including both the Saratoga Village and Downtown Los Gatos, as well as other bicycle routes in Santa Clara County. This roadway is one of the few direct links between various parts of each community, where there are limited or non-existent parallel local streets.

The Town of Los Gatos was designated as the lead agency on this project, since the Town has an approved Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) program through Caltrans. Having an approved DBE program is a requirement for this project since it uses Federal grant funds.

PREPARED BY: KEVIN ROHANI
Interim Director of Parks and Public Works

Kevin Rohani

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Reviewed by: _____ Assistant Town Manager OK Town Attorney
_____ Clerk Administrator SC Finance _____ Community Development

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On October 16, 2006, Council approved a professional consultant services agreement with BKF Engineers Inc. for preparation of construction documents for this project in coordination with our partnering municipalities. In addition a sub-committee of Council members from each community was appointed to participate in the conceptual design and development of this project with the community.

DISCUSSION:

Beginning in November 2006, a total of four (4) public meetings were held and input from residents and other interested parties taken as the process of refining the project scope of work moved forward. These meetings generated a great deal of interest from the public and reflected the desire of the community for an enhanced and safer Highway 9. As the project was being refined, it became apparent that the initial grant of approximately \$1.5 million will not be sufficient to address all the safety and operational needs of Highway 9 which was estimated at \$9 million. Pursuing additional grant funding would delay and jeopardize the utilization of the \$1.5 million grant.

In light of the above, it was the concurrence of the Council sub-committee members, agency staff, and the public to divide the Highway 9 Safety Improvement Project in two phases. The first phase of the work is to design and construct bicycle safety improvement and signing and striping of the road using the \$1.5 million grant. The next phase of the work is to address various pedestrian deficiencies of Highway 9 and a wide range of options and features that may be considered for such facilities. This task will require extensive analysis of pedestrian facilities demand in each municipality along the Highway 9 route. In conjunction with phase 2, grant funding opportunities would be explored in the future and agencies can continue to work collaboratively on any future work on Highway 9.

The final plan for phase one work on this project was developed and approved by Council sub-committee and the public and staff began the process of working with Caltrans in obtaining the project approval and authorization for bidding which has been completed.

Plans and Specifications for this project are complete and will be available for review in the Clerk Department on the Friday before the Council meeting. If Council approves this project, it will be advertised and a construction contract will be presented for Council award on November 5, 2007.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Council adopt the attached Resolution approving plans and specifications for the Highway 9 Safety Improvements and authorize staff to advertise the project for bids.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This project is Categorically Exempt pursuant to Sections 15301 (c), and 15303 (e), and 15304 (b) of the State CEQA guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Cities of Saratoga and Monte Sereno will pay for all services received in accordance with the payment terms specified in their agreement. This approach to sharing the cost to each jurisdiction, as contained in the agreement, is to prorate the costs in relation to the cost of the work in each jurisdiction.

Attachments:

Resolution approving plans and specifications for the Highway 9 Safety Improvement Project.

RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF LOS GATOS
APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR
PPW JOB NO. 05-17
HIGHWAY 9 SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ADVERTISE THE PROJECT FOR BIDS**

WHEREAS, plans and specifications for the Highway 9 Safety Improvement Project have been prepared by the Town Engineer and are duly filed with the Clerk Administrator; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Los Gatos has reviewed the new plans and specifications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town Council hereby approves the plans and specifications for the Highway 9 Safety Improvement Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Clerk Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to advertise the Highway 9 Safety Improvement Project for bids in the manner prescribed by the Town Municipal Code.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Los Gatos held on the 17th day of September, 2007 by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

SIGNED: MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF LOS GATOS
LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA

ATTEST:

CLERK ADMINISTRATOR OF THE TOWN OF LOS GATOS
LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA