

AGENDA: April 1, 2004

TO: Regional Transportation Commission

FROM: Linda Wilshusen, Executive Director

REGARDING: Request for Proposals for Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the 2005 Regional Transportation Plan and AMBAG's Metropolitan Transportation Plan

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the attached Request for Proposals for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Regional Transportation Plan and AMBAG's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Attachment 1).

BACKGROUND

In September, the Commission approved the SCCRTC participating in a coordinated update of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments' three-county Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) including developing a single environmental document for the tri-county region. The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) is also participating in this collaborative effort which will save and reduce duplication of effort in our region. The Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee and the Commission included the RTC's one-third share of the joint EIR, \$30,000, in the October and January amendments to the FY03-04 budget.

There is a separate item on the regular agenda for this meeting for a public hearing on the draft financial projections and project lists for the 2005 SCCRTC RTP. The 2005 RTP for Santa Cruz County is a relatively minor update to the 2001 RTP.

DISCUSSION

AMBAG, SCCRTC and TAMC staff worked together to draft the attached Request for Proposals (RFP) for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for AMBAG's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the SCCRTC's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and TAMC's RTP. RTC staff recommends approval of the RFP.

AMBAG is the lead agency on the EIR and AMBAG staff will manage the EIR consultant contract. The SCCRTC and TAMC are responsible agencies. RTC staff will participate in all aspects of the project including consultant selection and review of

work products. The Boards of all three agencies will approve selection of the consultant, will get a draft EIR for its region, and will hold a public hearing on the draft EIR.

The current schedule for development of the MTP and the two county RTPs calls for release of the draft EIR to the public next winter, followed by certification of the final EIR and adoption of the RTP in spring 2005.

SUMMARY

The attached Request for Proposals for an EIR for AMBAG's MTP and TAMC's and SCCRTC's RTPs has been developed by the staffs of those agencies. Approval of the RFP is recommended.

Attachment 1: Request for Proposals

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