

TO: Regional Transportation Commission

FROM: Lisa Powell, Transportation Planner

REGARDING: Regional Coordinated Traffic Counts Program-Agreement with Transportation Agency for Monterey County

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission adopt a resolution (Attachment 1) approving an agreement between the Transportation Agency for Monterey County and the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission for Regional Coordinated Traffic Counts Program.

BACKGROUND

The Regional Transportation Commission has a long-standing commitment of performing traffic counts within Santa Cruz County. In 2005, the RTC, in the interests of economy and safety, issued an RFP for professional traffic monitoring services and contracted with Field Data Services. Previously, traffic counts were performed by RTC staff.

The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) approached the RTC staff, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), and San Benito County Council of Governments with a proposal to coordinate the traffic counts program for the Monterey Bay Region. The advantages presented include better regional coordination for updating and calibrating the regional traffic demand model and possible cost savings due to higher volumes of counts when resources are combined. TAMC is interested in having AMBAG administer a regional program as they currently do not have a traffic monitoring program and would like to begin one. RTC staff has told AMBAG our participation is dependent on the proposals of traffic monitoring contractors compared to our current contract and upon board approval. AMBAG intends to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for traffic monitoring services in Spring of 2007. At that time, the Commission can determine if combining the traffic monitoring programs is indeed beneficial to the RTC.

DISCUSSION

TAMC is interested in utilizing Field Data Services, the contractor currently under contract with RTC, to perform traffic counts within Monterey County. TAMC currently does not have a contract with a traffic monitoring consultant. They have budgeted \$40,000 to begin a traffic monitoring program in 2007. Using the RTC traffic monitoring consultant will allow TAMC to begin their counting program early in 2007 rather than being delayed by a lengthy RFP process.

Staff recommends that the RTC adopt a resolution (Attachment 1) approving a new agreement (Attachment 2) between the Regional Transportation Commission and the Transportation Agency for Monterey County for a Coordinated Traffic Counts Program.

SUMMARY

A resolution approving an agreement between the RTC and TAMC that would allow TAMC to utilize the traffic monitoring consultant currently under contract with the RTC has been prepared for the Commission's consideration and approval.

Attachment 1. Resolution approving agreement between RTC and TAMC

Attachment 2. Agreement between TAMC and SCCRTC for Regional Coordinated Traffic Counts Program