

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS

August 8, 2023

Relocation of Traffic Signal Pull Boxes for East Los Angeles Community Roadway

Improvement

On March 1, 2022, the Board approved the East Los Angeles Community Roadway Improvement Project in the Cities of Commerce and Montebello and the unincorporated community of East Los Angeles (Project). This adopted the plans and specifications, instructed the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to advertise the Project, and delegated certain authorities to the Director of Public Works to deliver the Project, including the authority to award and execute a construction contract with the responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid within or less than the estimated construction cost range of \$6,000,000 and \$9,000,000. The Project will deliver much needed road rehabilitation and upgrades along two corridors key to connectivity and mobility within the unincorporated community of East Los Angeles, cities of Montebello and Commerce, and beyond.

On April 12, 2022, four bids were received. Palp Inc., dba Excel Paving Company (Excel Paving) was the apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder with a bid price of \$9,634,240.74. This bid price exceeded the Director of Public Works' authority to award the project and represented a price 44 percent higher than the construction cost estimate,

MOTION

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which was based on historical average contract prices for similar items of work. The previously estimated construction cost range of \$6,000,000 and \$9,000,000 included prices for several items that were below current market prices at the time of project bid. As a result, Public Works returned to the Board to recommend award of the construction contract. On September 13, 2022, the Board awarded a contract to Excel Paving and authorized the Director of Public Works to execute a construction contract for the Project in the amount of \$9,634,240.74.

In May 2023, project work commenced with initial activities of potholing existing facilities and investigating conditions of existing traffic signal equipment, including pull boxes at a few intersections. The contractor discovered additional work, such as pull box replacements, Southern California Edison facility relocations, street trenching, and conduit replacements, which necessitated a full investigation of the remaining intersections and the discovery of additional significant work. This unforeseen work was not initially included in the original design plans and has placed a pause on current construction activities. The estimated cost of this additional work is estimated to be \$1,800,000 with payment being made based on a time and materials basis.

Public Works requires the Board's approval and delegated authority to execute a Change Order for the Project in the amount of \$1,800,000 for traffic signal components, which includes traffic signal pull box relocation, procurement of new materials for pull box relocation and associated labor costs to perform the work. The plans for improving the roadway and traffic signals at Whittier Boulevard and Olympic Boulevard require relocating pull boxes within the curb ramp areas. Funding for the change order is included in the Road Fund (B03 - Capital Assets - Infrastructure and Services and Supplies), and First and Fourth Supervisorial Districts' Transportation Improvement Programs in the Proposition C Local

Return Fund (CN9 - Capital Assets - Infrastructure) Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budgets.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the following:

- 1) Find that the project, with revisions, is within the scope of the Board's previous exemption on March 1, 2022, finding pursuant to Section 15301 (c) and 15303 (e) of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines and Class 1 (x) Subsections 2, 4, 9, 14, 19, and 22 and Class 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G. There is no change in the project scope that requires additional findings under CEQA.
- 2) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute a Change Order in the amount of \$1,800,000 for traffic signal components, which includes traffic signal pull box relocation, procurement of new materials for pull box relocation and associated labor costs to perform the work for Project ID No. RDC0016147, East Los Angeles Community Roadway Improvement Project in the cities of Commerce and Montebello and the unincorporated community of East Los Angeles.

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VOTES REQUIRED:

☐ 3-VOTES ☒ 4-VOTES ☐ 5-VOTES

CATEGORIES: (Please check ☒ those that apply)

- ☐ 1. Child Welfare
- ☐ 2. Community and Youth Empowerment
- ☐ 3. County and Municipal Services
- ☐ 4. Economic Justice
- ☐ 5. Economic and Workforce Development
- ☐ 6. Education
- ☐ 7. Environment and Environmental Justice
- ☐ 8. Fiscal
- ☐ 9. Governance
- ☐ 10. Health
- ☐ 11. Homelessness and Housing
- ☐ 12. Immigration
- ☐ 13. Public Safety and Diversion
- ☐ 14. Social Justice and Human Rights
- ☐ 15. Technology and Data
- ☐ 16. Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy
- ☐ 17. Legislation
- ☐ 18. Parks and Open Space
- ☐ 19. Planning/Land Use
- ☒ 20. Transportation

☐ 21. Veterans

☐ 22. Delegated Authority