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City Manager's Report
January 14, 2025 City Council Meeting
Prepared by: Melissa McConnell, City Engineer
Item #: 12.3

Subject: Consider approving an Agreement for Engineering Services in the amount of \$3,622,276.15 and authorizing the City Manager to execute the same, and the issuance Notice to Proceed #1 in the amount of \$970,399.49 to Wood Rodgers, Inc. for the US 50 Trip to Green Congestion Management and Resiliency Strategy project (CIP #42502).

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution:

1. Approving an Agreement for Engineering Services with Wood Rodgers, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$3,622,276.15 for the said project, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the same; and
2. Authorizing the issuance of Notice to Proceed #1 to Wood Rodgers, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$970,399.49 for the said project.

Purpose: The purpose of this item is to approve an Agreement for Engineering Services that will enable the project to begin the Project Approval and Environmental Documentation phase.

Strategic Plan Strategy: Strategy 4 - Update and Maintain City-Owned Infrastructure

Background: The El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) and the City of Placerville have partnered together for decades, along with Caltrans and first responders, to identify actionable solutions to improve climate resiliency and reduce congestion on US 50 through the City of Placerville. From the 1990s through early 2000s, Caltrans studies evaluated potential options, like a flyover freeway, to address the three signalized intersections and associated traffic congestion and delay on US 50.

In 2021, a new concept was developed to evaluate the effectiveness of setting all eastbound and westbound traffic signals to "green" on US 50 to efficiently and safely move vehicles through Placerville. The US 50 Access Control Action Plan was executed for a proof of concept for the new concept, known as "Trip to Green." Trip to Green was implemented over three weekends in 2022 and the data and results were thoroughly analyzed in the US 50 Corridor Action Plan. The success of the pilot program, as well as the success of Trip to Green implementation during the Caldor Fire, led to a Local Transportation Climate Adaption Program (LTCAP) grant application in 2023. The grant funding that was secured will enable the City to design the proposed permanent Trip to Green infrastructure on US 50.

The US 50 Trip to Green Congestion Management and Resiliency Strategy (Trip to Green) project (CIP #42502), will install traffic management devices such as barriers, mechanical stop bars,

channelization devices for turn lanes, and other ITS features, and will construct a bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing at Canal Street. During implementation of Trip to Green, all three traffic signals in Placerville will be held in a solid green phase for a designated time, only during high congestion periods or in the event of an emergency evacuation. The traffic control devices will prevent left turns and north-south crossings of US 50 during Trip to Green, with the exception of emergency vehicle access.

Discussion:

Project Funding: The LTCAP funding includes the environmental, design, and right-of-way phases of the project. This funding source includes a combination of both state and federal funds and requires a 20% local match. For the first project phase, the local matching funds will consist of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program exchange funds. In support of this regionally significant project, El Dorado County partnered with the City and contributed 50% of the local match. The local matching funds have not yet been identified for the final design and right-of-way phases. Construction funding has also not yet been identified.

Staff received the Allocation Letter for the state LTCAP funds in the amount of \$800,000 for the PA/ED phase on October 2, 2024.

Agreement for Engineering Services: Staff released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Engineering Design and Environmental Services on August 13, 2024, and the proposals were due on September 10, 2024. Despite public solicitation on the City’s website, only one proposal was received from Wood Rodgers, Inc. Given the use of state and federal funds on the project, the City has followed the *Local Assistance Procedures Manual (LAPM) - Chapter 10 Consultant Selection* process. To ensure a qualifications-based selection process, the LAPM requires that a minimum of three proposals is received and evaluated, otherwise a justification must be approved by Caltrans Local Assistance. A panel of three, including the City Engineer, a Caltrans Traffic Operations representative, and an El Dorado County Transportation Commission representative reviewed and evaluated the proposal from Wood Rodgers. The proposal was scored based on the evaluation criteria described in the RFP and unanimously, Wood Rodgers’ proposal scored very high among all three reviewers demonstrating exceptional knowledge and understanding of the project. Staff submitted a Public Interest Finding to Caltrans Local Assistance requesting approval to award the contract to Wood Rodgers, Inc. because the minimum requirement of three proposals was not met. Caltrans approved the Public Interest Finding on November 4, 2024.

Wood Rodgers’ proposal includes a detailed scope, schedule, and fee in the amount of \$3,622,276.15 for PA/ED, PS&E, Right-of-Way, Grant Support, and Construction Engineering. The proposed fee for each phase is as follows:

Phase I – Project Approval and Environmental Documentation (PA/ED)	\$970,399.49
Phase II – Final Design (Plans Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) Phase)	\$2,222,379.83
Phase III – Right-of-Way Engineering	\$291,957.63
Phase IV – Grant Support.....	\$73,775.17
Phase V – Construction Engineering.....	\$63,764.03

Staff is recommending approval of an Agreement for Engineering Services with Wood Rodgers, Inc. for the negotiated scope and fee in the amount of \$3,622,276.15. Along with the Agreement, staff is recommending issuance of Notice to Proceed (NTP) #1 to Wood Rodgers to kick-off the project

and the PA/ED phase in the amount of \$970,399.49. Additional NTPs will be issued in the future as key milestones are completed and additional funding becomes available.

Below is a tentative project schedule, assuming Council’s approval to move forward with staff’s recommendations:

Notice to Proceed	January 20, 2025
Draft CEQA Environmental Document	October 2026
Final CEQA Environmental Document	December 2026
Project Report Approval.....	December 2026
Completion of NEPA	January 2027
Final Design Completion.....	April 2028
Right of Way Certification.....	May 2028
Request for Authorization to Proceed with Construction.....	June 2028
Advertise and Bid	August 2028
Begin Construction	Spring 2029

Options:

1. Approve Agreement and NTP #1 as recommended by staff.
2. Provide other direction to staff.


Environmental: Not applicable to this item.

Cost: The cost of the proposed Notice to Proceed No. 1 with Wood Rodgers, Inc. is \$970,399.49.

Budget Impact: The City Council adopted the 2024/2025 Capital Improvement Program budget which appropriated \$1,000,000 for the new US 50 Trip to Green Congestion Management and Resiliency Project (CIP #42502). To date, the project has encumbered the following costs:

Wood Rodgers, Inc. (Proposed Notice to Proceed No. 1)	\$ 970,399
Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann Girard	265
City Staff	7,250
Total	<u><u>\$ 977,914</u></u>

As you can see, the \$970,399 in project encumbrances, including the proposed \$970,399.49 NTP #1 with Wood Rodgers, Inc., is within the \$1,000,000 project budget.



 M. Cleve Morris, City Manager



 Melissa McConnell, City Engineer

Attachments:
 Attachment A: Resolution