



TULARE COUNTY
Resource Management Agency
AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALLEN ISHIDA
District One

CONNIE CONWAY
District Two

PHILLIP A. COX
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four

MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: December 9, 2008 - **REVISED**

Public Hearing Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Resolution, Ordinance or Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s) Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>			

CONTACT PERSON: Celeste Perez PHONE: 733 6291

SUBJECT: Highway Railroad Crossings Safety Account (HRCSA) Project Baseline Agreement

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. As the Sponsor Agency, ratify and approve the Highway Railroad Crossings Safety Account (HRCSA) Project Baseline Agreement from the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for \$12.175 million for the construction of the Betty Drive (Phase 2) railroad crossing improvements, retroactive to September 1, 2008.
2. Find that the Board had authority to enter into the proposed agreement as of September 1, 2008, and that it was in the County's best interest to enter into the agreement on that date.
3. Authorize the Chairman to execute the Baseline Agreement with the California Transportation Commission.

SUMMARY:

On June 10, 2008, Tulare County Redevelopment Board of Directors authorized the submittal of an application to the Highway Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) grant program.

On August 28, 2008, the CTC awarded a \$12.175 million (HRCSA) grant for the construction of railroad crossing improvements for Betty Drive to the Tulare County

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Redevelopment Agency (TCRA). Since the County will own and maintain the improvements funded by TCRA upon the project completion, the CTC designates the County as the Sponsor Agency.

Total construction cost for the Grade Separation Project underpass/overpass improvement is estimated to cost approximately \$27.8 million dollars. HRCSA grant funds of \$12.175 million will be combined with Measure R funding of \$14 million, City of Visalia has committed to funding up to \$3.5 million for the Betty Drive project, of which the Grade Separation project will use \$1.5 million. Goshen Redevelopment Tax Increment funding of \$175,000 will be used for construction contingency.

TCRA has created project milestones that must be met in order to satisfy the HRCSA funding, Measure R funding and City of Visalia funding commitments. The project schedule is as follows: Preliminary Approval and Environmental Decision (PA&ED) phase began on June 9, 2008 and will end on May 29, 2009. The Right of Way phase to begin on August 31, 2009 and end on May 29, 2010. The Construction Phase is scheduled to begin on June 1, 2010 and end on June 6, 2011.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There will be no impact to the General Fund as project costs are paid from the HRCSA grant and other funding sources.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

Safety and Security – This project will improve the transportation infrastructure for Goshen and the adjacent highway corridor by constructing additional travel lanes on Avenue 312 and replacing the at-grade railroad crossing on Betty Drive.

Quality of Life - Construction of this project will provide more options for traveling in and around the community and will help to eliminate the impacts of commercial traffic in residential areas. Reducing vehicular traffic in the community, will result in less noise and less air pollution and will raise the quality of life for residents.

Economic Well-Being – Construction of this project will promote and support economic development by creating more efficient roadways for smoother movement of people and goods. This project will encourage growth consistent with Tulare County General Plan.

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ALTERNATIVES:

None

INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES:

California Transportation Commission (CTC) for project funding, Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) for project funding, City of Visalia (project funding), Tulare County Counsel (legal reviews).

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS:

William L. Hayter, Assistant Director
Community & Development Services

Henry Hash,
Director

cc: Auditor/Controller
County Counsel
County Administrative Office (3)

Attachment(s)

HRCSA baseline agreement

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF)
THE HIGHWAY RAILROAD CROSSINGS)
SAFETY ACCOUNT (HRCSA) PROJECT)
BASELINE AGREEMENT)

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AGREEMENT NO. _____

WHEREAS, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) HRCSA Guidelines require the local agency, and any entity committed to providing supplementary funding for the project, to execute a baseline agreement with the Department to confirm the project scope, benefits, delivery schedule, and the project budget and funding plan; and

WHEREAS, the HRCSA guidelines also require the local agency receiving a Commission allocation to execute a funding agreement with the Department before it can be reimbursed for project expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Department utilizes the HRCSA and Grade Separation Fund Agreement for the purpose of administering and reimbursing intercity rail funds to local agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Tulare County Redevelopment Agency agrees to secure funds for any additional costs of the project, and if any of the funding sources being applied for and then are denied, to add funding from other sources to replace the denied funding. Changes to the funding commitments outlined in the baseline agreement require an amendment, and

WHEREAS, the Tulare County Board of Supervisors wishes to delegate authorization to execute the baseline agreement and any amendments, and the funding agreement in the amount of \$12,175,000 thereto to the Executive Director of the Tulare County Redevelopment Agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Tulare County that the sponsoring agency agrees to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the baseline and funding agreements and applicable statutes, regulations and guidelines for the Proposition 1B Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account Bond-funded projects.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tulare County Board of Supervisors Chairman is authorized to execute the Baseline Agreement and Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account 1B Bond Fund Agreement thereto with the California Department of Transportation.

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR_____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR_____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JEAN M. ROUSSEAU
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk