

CITY OF YUBA CITY
STAFF REPORT

Date: November 17, 2015
To: Honorable Mayor & Members of the City Council
From: Public Works Department
Presentation by: Diana Langley, Public Works Director

Summary

Subject: 5th Street Bridge Replacement Project – High Priority Project Fund Transfer Letter

Recommendation: Authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to Congressman Garamendi requesting a revision to the project description for High Priority Project No. 3631.

Fiscal Impact: Up to \$2,764,575.26 in grant funding for the 5th Street Bridge Replacement Project – 20% match required

Purpose:

Attempt to retain unused federal funding allocated for the 5th Street Bridge.

Background:

Public Law 109-59, enacted August 10, 2005, authorized federal funding of \$4,000,000 for High Priority Project (HPP) No. 3631, a project whose description reads “to convert a railroad bridge into a highway bridge spanning the Feather River between Yuba City and Marysville.” The eventual obligational authority of this federal funding totaled \$3,599,600.

Approximately \$835,000 of HPP funds were used to complete the Project Study Report (PSR) and most of the Environmental Document for the 5th Street Bridge Replacement project. Caltrans Office of Special and Discretionary Programs administers the HPP funds allocated to agencies in California. Caltrans has informed the City that once the PSR determined that the preferred project was to construct a new 4-lane bridge, as opposed to “converting a railroad bridge into a highway bridge”, the HPP funds can no longer be used for the 5th Street Bridge Replacement project without congressional approval.

Approximately \$2,765,000 in HPP funding would go unexpended without congressional approval.

Analysis:

The purpose of HPP No. 3631 was to develop two additional lanes across the Feather River between Yuba City and Marysville, which is still being accomplished by the preferred project.

Staff recommends submitting a letter signed by the mayor/chair of the boards of Marysville, Sutter County, Yuba County, and the City to Congressman Garamendi requesting that the project description of the HPP funds be changed to “to reconstruct the existing 5th Street Bridge and railroad approaches to provide a 4-lane crossing of the Feather River between Yuba City and Marysville”.

The other 3 local agencies will be taking this matter before their respective governing bodies in November.

Staff further recommends meeting with Congressman Garamendi's staff to address the matter directly, along with soliciting support from State Assemblyman Gallagher, State Senator Nielsen, U.S. Senators Boxer and Feinstein, and District 1 Congressman LaMalfa.

SACOG has offered its full support for this effort.

Fiscal Impact:

Up to \$2,764,575.26 in grant funding could be available for the 5th Street Bridge Replacement Project with congressional approval. A 20% match, approximately \$691,000, is required for this funding.

Current cost estimates for the 5th Street Bridge Replacement project indicate approximately \$2,636,000 in local funds could be required to complete the project. The total estimated project cost and funding by source are shown below. The HPP funds could be used for the local share shown in the table with congressional approval.

Highway Bridge Program	\$46,397,000
Regional Surface Transportation Program	\$3,185,000
State Transportation Improvement Program	\$17,415,000
<u>Local</u>	<u>\$2,636,000</u>
Total Project Cost	\$69,633,000

The HPP funding could also be crucial to completing the project if cost overruns become an issue during construction.

Alternatives:

Do not authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to Congressman Garamendi requesting a revision to the project description for High Priority Project No. 3631 and provide staff other direction for attempting to retain the unused grant funding.

Recommendation:

Authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to Congressman Garamendi requesting a revision to the project description for High Priority Project No. 3631.

Prepared by:

Submitted by:

Kevin Bradford

Kevin Bradford
Senior Engineer

Steven C. Kroeger

Steven C. Kroeger
City Manager

Reviewed by:

Department Head

DL

Finance

RB

City Attorney

TH via email



November __, 2015

The Honorable John Garamendi
House of Representatives
2438 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Garamendi:

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), or Public Law 109-59, enacted August 10, 2005, authorized \$4,000,000 under High Priority Project No. 3631 “to convert a railroad bridge into a highway bridge spanning the Feather River between Yuba City and Marysville.” The eventual obligational authority of the federal funding totaled \$3,599,600. The purpose of this funding was to develop two additional lanes across the Feather River between Yuba City and Marysville.

On April 8, 2013, the City of Yuba City (City), in conjunction with the City of Marysville, Sutter County, and Yuba County, completed a Project Study Report that determined converting the railroad bridge into a highway bridge was not the most cost effective means of providing two additional lanes across the river. Instead, the Project Study Report determined that constructing a new 4-lane structure as a replacement to the existing bridge is the preferred project. Once this determination was made, the Caltrans Office of Special and Discretionary Programs declared that the High Priority Project funds can no longer be used because the project now does not involve “converting the railroad bridge into a highway bridge”.

However, the original intent of the High Priority Project funds to provide two additional lanes across the river is still being met by the preferred project. Approximately, \$2,765,000 of High Priority Project funds remain and the City would like to utilize these funds for the right of way and construction phases of the preferred project. The City respectfully requests that the project description of High Priority Project No. 3631 under Public Law 109-59 be replaced in its entirety with the following: “to reconstruct the existing 5th Street Bridge and railroad approaches to provide a 4-lane crossing of the Feather River between Yuba City and Marysville”.

Final design of the preferred project is moving forward with a combination of Highway Bridge Program, Regional Surface Transportation Program, and local funding. In addition to these three funding sources, State Transportation Improvement Program funding is programmed in 2017 for construction. The City respectfully requests that the description for High Priority Project No. 3631 be revised by September 2016 in order to accommodate construction in 2017.

Congressman Garamendi
November __, 2015

Thank you for your interest in this important project. Please contact Ms. Diana Langley, Director of Public Works for Yuba City, at (530) 822-4792 if we can provide you with additional information.

Sincerely,

Ricky Samayoa
Mayor, City of Marysville

John Dukes
Mayor, City of Yuba City

Ron Sullenger
Chairman, County of Sutter

Mary Jane Griego
Chairman, County of Yuba