

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to authorizing the appropriation of an additional \$490,594 to expand the environmental clearance work to include the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in connection with the Lincoln Boulevard Widening Project.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Bonin - Blumenfield) and SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

AUTHORIZE the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to appropriate an additional \$490,594 within the Coastal Corridor Specific Plan Fund No. 447 from the available cash balance to the Lincoln Bridge Account No. 94LN01 to expand the environmental clearance work to include the NEPA in connection with the Lincoln Boulevard Widening Project.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On July 226, 2017, your Committee considered a Motion (Bonin - Blumenfield) relative to authorizing the appropriation of an additional \$490,594 to expand the environmental clearance work to include the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in connection with the Lincoln Boulevard Widening Project. According to the Motion, in June 2012, Council approved the study and development of conceptual designs for the Lincoln Boulevard widening project. On May 12, 2015, Council authorized the LADOT to seek an engineering firm to prepare the necessary Project Report (PR) and Environmental Document (ED). Subsequently, on January 27, 2016, Council authorized the LADOT to select and enter into an agreement with a civil engineering firm to prepare the PR and ED.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the lead agency for the environmental clearance stage. It was originally anticipated that the project would only require California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) clearance, however, Caltrans has amended the required ED to include work necessary to meet the NEPA clearance requirements. The LADOT staff supports the expanded scope, as it will make it possible to pursue federal funding sources for the construction phase of the project. These task modifications result in an additional \$490,594 cost to the preparation of the environmental documents related to the project.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion as detailed above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE

BONIN: YES
MARTINEZ: ABSENT
KORETZ: YES

ARL
7/26/17

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-