APPROVE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR LANDSCAPE AND MITIGATION PLANTING FOR THE FRENCH CAMP ROAD/I-5 INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION (PROJECT NO. 99-01/FEDERAL PROJECT NO. STPIDML-5008(116))

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council approve a motion authorizing the City Manager to execute Cooperative Agreements between the City and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and between the City and the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) to install landscaping and mitigation planting for the French Camp Road/I-5 Interchange Reconstruction (Project No. 99-01/Federal Project No. STPIDML-5008(116)).

It is further recommended that the motion authorize the City Manager to take appropriate actions to carry out the purpose and intent of this motion.

Summary

The French Camp Road/I-5 Interchange Reconstruction project has been completed. A secondary project to install landscaping and mitigation planting is now required per Caltrans’ requirements and the environmental document. The landscaping component will include a three-year maintenance period, and the mitigation planting component will include a five-year maintenance period. Caltrans requires the contract for landscaping and mitigation planting to be separate from the contract for reconstruction of the interchange.

The attached Cooperative Agreement between the City and Caltrans memorializes the roles and responsibilities of the two parties for the landscaping and mitigation planting. The attached Measure K Renewal Cooperative Agreement between the City and SJCOG will fund the landscaping and mitigation planting. Staff recommends a motion authorizing the City Manager to execute both Agreements, so the project can be advertised for competitive bids. Contract award is anticipated in April of 2015.

DISCUSSION

Background

The City is the lead agency for the French Camp Road/I-5 Interchange Reconstruction project (Attachment A). This project is associated with two other projects: 1) Sperry Road Extension from Performance Drive to French Camp Road, and 2) Manthey Road Relocation west of I-5. All projects have been completed and are open to traffic.

Caltrans requires the installation of landscaping at the interchange, followed by a three-year
maintenance period for plant establishment. The environmental document for the project requires mitigation planting along French Camp Slough, due to the widening of the I-5 bridges over the French Camp Slough. This mitigation planting requires a five-year maintenance period. Caltrans requires the contract for landscaping and mitigation planting to be separate from the contract for reconstruction of the interchange.

**Present Situation**

The Cooperative Agreement between the City and Caltrans (Attachment B) outlines the roles and responsibilities of the two parties during the construction phase. The key articles of the Agreement include the following:

1. Caltrans will issue, at no cost to the City, an encroachment permit to the City authorizing entry onto the State highway right-of-way to install the landscaping and mitigation planting and their maintenance;

2. Caltrans will provide independent quality assurance for the portion of work within the State right-of-way;

3. Local (City and SJCOG) will pay 100 percent of the cost for the installation of the landscaping and mitigation planting.

The Measure K Renewal Cooperative Agreement between the City and SJCOG (Attachment C) provides $1,900,000 in Measure K renewal funds to fund the landscape and mitigation planting. This amount was identified in the Measure K Cooperative Agreement for the French Camp Road/I-5 Interchange Reconstruction, approved by Council on September 25, 2012 (Motion No. 2012-09-25-1502-03). The total cost of the landscaping project is estimated at $2,650,000. This amount includes construction, contingency, construction management/inspection, and maintenance. The remaining $750,000 ($2,650,000 - $1,900,000) is to be funded by Public Facility Fee dollars as approved in the fiscal year 2014-19 Capital Improvement Plan.

Staff recommends Council approve a motion authorizing the City Manager to execute the Caltrans and SJCOG Cooperative Agreements. Once approved, the landscaping and mitigation planting can be advertised for competitive bids. Contract award is anticipated in April of 2015.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

With the execution of the Cooperative Agreement with SJCOG, this project will be fully funded. All funding was identified and allocated in the Capital Improvement Program Budget for fiscal year 2014-15 under the French Camp Road/I-5 Interchange Reconstruction project (Project No. 99-01/Federal Project No. STPIDML-5008(116)).

There is no impact to the City’s General Fund or to any other unrestricted fund as a result of taking the recommended action.

Attachment A - Vicinity Map
Attachment B - Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans
Attachment C - Measure K Renewal Cooperative Agreement with SJCOG