

# The County of Yuba

## Community Development and Services Agency

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Community Development and Services Agency, Daniel Peterson

**SUBJECT:** Community Development and Services: Adopt resolution authorizing Public Works Director to Execute a Grant agreement for the “*Updated Traffic Counts and Future Travel Demand Models*” project

**DATE:** September 8, 2020

**NUMBER:** 458 / 2020

### *Recommendation*

Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Public Works Director to execute a Restricted Grant Agreement, including any amendments and requests for payment as necessary, with the California Department of Transportation, as related to the County’s “*Updated Traffic Counts and Future Travel Demand Models*” project.

### *Background*

The Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 provides a source of funds to maintain and integrate the State’s multi-modal transportation system. For FY 2020-21, the State is making available funds to support and implement a competitive grant program for Sustainable Transportation Planning. Staff successfully submitted a grant application for the County’s “*Updated Traffic Counts and Future Travel Demand Models*” project.

### *Discussion*

Over the past ten years, the County's population has increased by 7,360 new residents, a 10.4% increase. In 2011, Yuba County anticipated it would reach a population between 74,000 and 100,000 by 2030. Unexpectedly, the County has already experienced that population growth in less than eight years (the County's population is now 79,000). Most of that growth has occurred in the Linda / West Linda / Olivehurst / Plumas Lake areas. The unincorporated communities of Linda, West Linda, and Olivehurst

are evolved communities that lack planned features such as storm drains, sidewalks, or bicyclist/pedestrian facilities.

The County proposes a comprehensive project to conduct traffic counts on up to 400 road segments and 57 bridges in order to promote social equity and adequately plan for future land use policies, circulation goals and policies, housing and zoning policies, natural resource protection policies and actions, transportation projects, infrastructure projects, and services.

The proposed project involves a two-prong effort: updating the County's traffic counts and updating the County's traffic forecast models. These two efforts are closely inter-related; the County needs updated traffic counts on approximately 400 road segments and 57 bridges in order to update its traffic forecast models. The traffic model forecasts allow Yuba County to meld its overall transportation plan directly with the County's General Plan - Land Use element and Environmental Justice element. Furthermore, the County works closely with Yuba-Sutter Transit in planning and developing multi-modal transportation projects. Yuba-Sutter Transit is similarly dependent on having current traffic counts and forecast models to perform its transit planning efforts.

The consequences of not funding this project include non-compliance with SB 743, further deterioration of the County's roadways, inability to identify or address safety issues, insufficient/unreliable infrastructure, less accessible and efficient public transit operations by Yuba-Sutter Transit, potential bridge and road closure, and the inability to adequately plan for future growth. Consequences also include non-compliance with SB 1000 and potentially worse air quality due to an inability to accurately model and evaluate future projects.

*Committee Action:*

Due to time constraints, staff is presenting this item directly to the full Board for consideration. The resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to execute the grant agreement for this project is due by September 11, 2020.

*Fiscal Impact:*

General Fund -	None
Non-General Fund -	\$225,000
Source of Funds -	\$197,500 from a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant
	\$ 27,500 from County Road Funds (Matching Funds)

*Attachments:*

Resolution

Grant Application Guide - Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program