

The County of Yuba

Community Development and Services Agency



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Community Development and Services Agency, Samuel Bunton

SUBJECT: Community Development and Services: Approve Agreement for Professional Engineering Services with Fehr & Peers for the Yuba Sutter Regional Safety Action Plan Project, and authorize Chair to execute

DATE: March 26, 2024

NUMBER: 130/2024

RECOMMENDATION:

The Yuba County Department of Public Works recommends the Board of Supervisors approve the agreement for professional engineering services with Fehr & Peers for the Yuba Sutter Regional Safety Action Plan Project and authorize the Chair to execute.

BACKGROUND:

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) established the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program, which funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. The combined Yuba-Sutter roadway fatality rate is 18.74 per 100,000 people, which is significantly higher than the national rate of 11.7. This high roadway fatality rate spurred the communities of this two-county region to seek grant funding for the creation of a comprehensive regional safety action plan through the 2022 Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program. This plan would take a unified approach in identifying the region's most significant roadway safety concerns and implement projects and strategies to address roadway safety issues.

Yuba County currently has a population of roughly 83,000. It has been an agriculture-based area, with agriculture making up the largest component of the local economy. Almost 75% of all the land supports some form of agricultural purpose. Yuba County has diverse terrain comprised of California's Central Valley, the Sierra Nevada foothills, and Sierra Mountains. The population is spread over the incorporated cities of Marysville and Wheatland, as well as the unincorporated communities of Olivehurst, Plumas Lake, Linda, Beale AFB, Challenge-Brownsville, and Loma Rica. There's now a

mix of agricultural and rapidly urbanizing communities, and residents are using the streets in ways different from when the roads were originally constructed. Some parts of Yuba County have changed over the last 20 years and continue to change due to development in the valley area. This development, while beneficial in many ways, has put increased pressure on the County's transportation network and is believed to be a cause for increased collision rates. The Yuba-Sutter region is in need of a strategy that would embed a safe systems approach and takes into account the myriad of ways in which our diverse community now uses its streets. The inclusion of both the incorporated and unincorporated communities within Yuba County, and the agreement of the communities in the neighboring Sutter County, Yuba City, and Live Oak to participate in the Safety Action Plan were critical components of making this plan truly comprehensive and effective on a regional level.

DISCUSSION:

The Board of Supervisors adopted the resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to execute a grant agreement at the Board of Supervisors meeting on July 25, 2023. Yuba County was awarded an Action Plan Grant of \$800,000 on July 28, 2023, to develop a comprehensive Regional Safety Action Plan that includes Yuba County, Sutter County, City of Yuba City, City of Live Oak, City of Marysville, and City of Wheatland.

The subject agreement is for professional engineering services pertaining to the Regional Safety Action Plan, with a total contract amount of \$950,000. This project will be funded by federal and local funds, a majority of which will be from the federal SS4A grant. This Regional Safety Action Plan will promote multi-modalism, potentially reduce vehicle miles traveled, greenhouse gas emissions, and criteria air pollutants, and will increase equity and access to communities that have been historically disadvantaged. It will identify the most significant roadway safety concerns and implement projects and strategies to address roadway safety issues. The County anticipates staff time totaling \$50,000 for a total project cost of \$1,000,000.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Due to the routine nature of the item, this item is being presented directly to the full Board of Supervisors.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Board Approved FY 2023-24 Budget Appropriation.

General Fund:	None
Non-General Fund:	\$1,000,000
Source of Funds:	\$800,000 from Safe Streets and Roads for All grant (Federal)

\$61,666 from Yuba County Road Funds (in-kind)
\$61,667 from Sutter County
\$61,667 from City of Yuba City
\$5,000 from City of Wheatland
\$5,000 from City of Marysville
\$5,000 from City of Live Oak

ATTACHMENTS:

Professional Services Agreement with Fehr & Peers.