



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: John Ristow

**SUBJECT: ROUTE 101 FREEWAY
AGREEMENT**

DATE: December 14, 2020

Approved

Date

12/17/20

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3 & 4

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute a Freeway Agreement between the City of San José (City) and the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) relating to the portion of U.S. Route 101 (US101) from 0.3 miles north of Burnett Ave to 0.4 miles north of De La Cruz Blvd.

OUTCOME

The recommended action will acknowledge the City's support for the construction of the US101/De La Cruz Blvd – Trimble Rd Interchange Improvement Project and document the modification of the access control along De La Cruz Blvd – Trimble Rd through the Freeway Agreement. In addition, this Freeway Agreement will consolidate and supersede other existing Freeway Agreements between the City and Caltrans along Route 101 through San Jose.

BACKGROUND

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, in partnership with the City and Caltrans, are working collaboratively on the US101/De La Cruz Blvd – Trimble Rd Interchange Improvement Project (Project), which is approaching the completion of the final design phase. The interchange project will construct the following improvements:

- Construct a separated bike/pedestrian path overcrossing, connecting the Guadalupe River Trails System to De La Cruz Blvd and Central Ex.
- Reconstruct the existing three-quadrant cloverleaf interchange to a partial cloverleaf interchange.
- Replace the existing De La Cruz-Trimble Rd overcrossing structure to provide additional lanes and structural support for the bike/pedestrian facilities.

- Provide an additional through lane in each direction on De La Cruz Blvd, from Trimble Rd to Central Ex.
- Reconstruct the intersection of De La Cruz Blvd and Central Ex to add additional through and turn lanes and improve operational and multimodal connectivity.
- Construct a new intersection at the terminus of the US101 southbound off-ramp at De La Cruz Blvd.

The Project will modify access to and from the freeway by reconfiguring on and off ramps along De La Cruz Blvd – Trimble Rd and Route 101, which triggers the need for a new Freeway Agreement. Prior to Caltrans issuing an encroachment permit for construction, the City Council action is required to execute the proposed freeway agreement.

Currently, the City has several freeway agreements with Caltrans for specific segments of Route 101 through San Jose. Approval of the proposed freeway agreement will update and consolidate these agreements to address all improvements, including the above Project improvements.

ANALYSIS

The California Streets and Highways Code (Section 100.2) requires Caltrans to enter into an agreement with the local agency having jurisdiction over the streets affected by a freeway project. The freeway agreement documents the general alignment and configuration of the planned freeway project, and it identifies local streets that will be affected by a freeway project.

Executing a new freeway agreement is a great opportunity for both the City and Caltrans to combine and document the alignment and configuration of the interchanges along the entire Route 101 corridor. In addition, the new freeway agreement will include the access modification for the US101/De La Cruz Blvd – Trimble Rd Interchange Improvement Project. This will provide the needed support for the project to continue into the construction phase, another major milestone towards project completion.

CONCLUSION

Executing the Freeway Agreement will authorize the City and Caltrans to consolidate the previous Freeway Agreements and document the modification of access control along De La Cruz Blvd – Trimble Rd and Route 101.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

Updates on this project will be included in future regional transportation activities quarterly reports to the Transportation and Environmental Committee. Staff will return to City Council for approval of the US101/De La Cruz Blvd – Trimble Rd Interchange Improvement Project's

Freeway Maintenance Agreement that will define maintenance responsibilities between the City and Caltrans.

CLIMATE SMART SAN JOSE

The recommendation in this memo aligns with one or more Climate Smart San José energy, water, or mobility goals. The approval of the Freeway Agreement will allow the construction of the Project to move forward into construction. This project will construct a Class I Bike/Pedestrian path across US101, connecting communities on the east and west sides of the highway, including to the Guadalupe River Trail, and facilitating mobility choices other than single-occupancy, gas powered vehicles.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This memorandum will be posted on the City's Council agenda website for the January 12, 2021 City Council Meeting.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement, and the City Manager's Budget Office.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT

No commission recommendation or input is associated with this action.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

This agreement supports the Project which is consistent with the Envision 2040 General Plan, North San José Area Development Policy, and North San José Deficiency Plan.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

The City's cost for the Project is included in the 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Program.

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CEQA

Categorically Exempt, File No. ER20-247, CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Existing Facilities.

/s/

JOHN RISTOW

Director of Transportation

For questions, please contact Zahir Gulzadah, Division Manager, at (408) 975-3257.