STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE:	**December 18, 2025**
SUBJECT:	**Approve Technical Services Agreement with ECORP Consulting, Inc. for Environmental Support Services for the 2027 Update to SRTA's Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy**
AGENDA ITEM:	**7-10**
STAFF CONTACT:	**Laurent Beauregard, Assistant Transportation Planner**

SUMMARY:

Environmental support services are needed to help prepare the 2027 update to the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). SRTA issued a request for proposals (RFP) for environmental support services. Caltrans District 2 and SRTA staff evaluated and scored proposals received and have provided a consensus recommendation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Authorize the executive director to execute a technical services agreement (TSA) with ECORP Consulting, Inc. to provide environmental support services for the 2027 RTP/SCS, for a term ending June 30, 2029, not to exceed a total of $116,367; and
2. Authorize the executive director to make minor administrative amendments as appropriate.

DISCUSSION:

Environmental support services are needed to support the development and adoption of the 2027 update to the RTP/SCS. Key activities include:

- Preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), including a notice of preparation, responses to comments, findings, and a mitigation monitoring and reporting program;
- Conducting air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions modeling using an approved air quality model and developing off-model strategies;
- Assisting SRTA in preparing and submitting the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Sustainable Communities Strategy Submittal Package and providing technical responses during CARB's GHG reduction target review; and
- Supporting public and agency engagement through workshops and meetings.

Staff issued an RFP for environmental support services on September 12, 2025. Staff issued Addendum One to address some broken weblinks and Addendum Two to remove mention of the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise requirements because the program is paused due to changes made. SRTA initially received one proposal from Soar Environmental Consulting. Per SRTA's procurement policy (Section 2.35.020.019A - FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION, Subsection B7), when fewer than three proposals are received, the agency contacts firms that were solicited to determine reasons for non-submittal before deciding whether to proceed or re-advertise.

SRTA contacted all solicited firms that did not submit a proposal. Out of the seven firms who did not submit a proposal, three replied. Two consultants indicated not having sufficient staffing capacity to support the project. Another consultant reported that they had begun preparing a proposal but had to redirect staff due to an emergency on an existing contract. They stated they would be able to submit a proposal if SRTA extended the deadline. Staff issued Addendum Three extending the submission deadline by three weeks and notified potential consultants. ECORP Consulting, Inc. submitted a complete proposal by the new deadline. This resulted in two total proposals received, one from Soar Environmental Consulting and ECORP Consulting Inc.

Staff established an evaluation panel with representation from SRTA and Caltrans District 2. Based on the evaluation panel's consensus scoring (Attachment B), ECORP Consulting, Inc. is recommended for award. Their proposal demonstrated the strongest technical approach, the most relevant qualifications, and the highest overall value to SRTA. ECORP Consulting, Inc. previously prepared SRTA's 2022 RTP/SCS SEIR and has demonstrated strong technical expertise with EMFAC modeling, SB 375 requirements, and CARB's review process.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may direct staff to reject all proposals and reissue the RFP. This would delay environmental review and may impact SRTA's ability to adopt the 2027 update to the RTP/SCS by December 2027, as required by federal and state law.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on December 3, 2025, to review and discuss this item and concurs with staff's recommendation. SRTA is coordinating with the cities of Anderson, Redding, Shasta Lake, Shasta County, and Caltrans District 2 to include transportation projects anticipated to be built over the next 20 years. The SEIR will provide a high-level assessment of potential environmental impacts for these projects. Project-level environmental review will be completed by the respective lead agencies.

FISCAL IMPACT:

ECORP Consulting Inc.'s proposed budget for the work is $116,367. The work is funded with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) planning funds and Local Transportation Funds under Work Element 701.01 (Regional Transportation Plan) in the Fiscal Year 2025/26 Overall Work Program.

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Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director

Attachments:

A: Request for Proposal

B: Consensus scores

C: Draft TSA with ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Attachment A

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Environmental Support Services for 2027 Update to SRTA's Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS)

SRTA Solicitation Number: S-00040

Issued:	September 12, 2025
Contract Capacity:	Estimated budget of $117,000
Performance Period:	RTP/SCS planned to be presented for adoption in October 2027, but the consultant will be under contract for services until CARB's approval of the SCS.
Payment Method:	Cost Reimbursement
Submissions Due:	3:00 p.m. PDT on October 13, 2025
Contact Person:	Laurent Beauregard, Assistant Transportation Planner

Interested applicants must subscribe to SRTA's bid posting webpage to receive notices when information and possible RFP addenda become available.

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001
(530) 262-6190

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About the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)

2025 SRTA Board of Directors

Board Member	Affiliation
Greg Watkins, Chair	City of Shasta Lake
Mike Gallagher, Vice Chair	City of Anderson
Tenessa Audette	City of Redding
Kevin Crye	Shasta County, District 1
Chris Kelstrom	Shasta County, District 5
Matt Plummer	Shasta County, District 4
Erin Resner	Redding Area Bus Authority

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Shasta County region. Member agencies are the cities of Anderson, Redding, and Shasta Lake; the county of Shasta; and the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA). Information regarding SRTA, regional plans and programs, and this procurement are available online at www.srta.ca.gov.

About the Shasta Region

Shasta County is located at the geographic center and transportation crossroads of California's North State. The nearest large city is Sacramento, 150 miles to the south on the Interstate 5 corridor, while the Oregon state line lies 100 miles due north. The county occupies the northern part of the Sacramento Valley and includes southern portions of the Cascade Mountains. The county has an area of 3,785 square miles. Shasta County has an urbanized area which contains the cities of Anderson, Redding, and Shasta Lake. The county is home to approximately 182,000 residents, about 80% of which live in the south-central urbanized area along I-5. Redding is the county seat and the region's primary socio-economic center.

The region is largely rural in character and geographically separated from other California metropolitan regions. Its population is one of the most dispersed in the state, having just 48 persons per square mile compared to the statewide average of 253.

Along with the primary I-5 corridor, state highways in the county include State Routes (SRs) 36, 44, 89, 151, 273 and 299.
Geographic elevations range from 425 feet on the valley floor to over 10,000 feet in Lassen Volcanic National Park. The region is

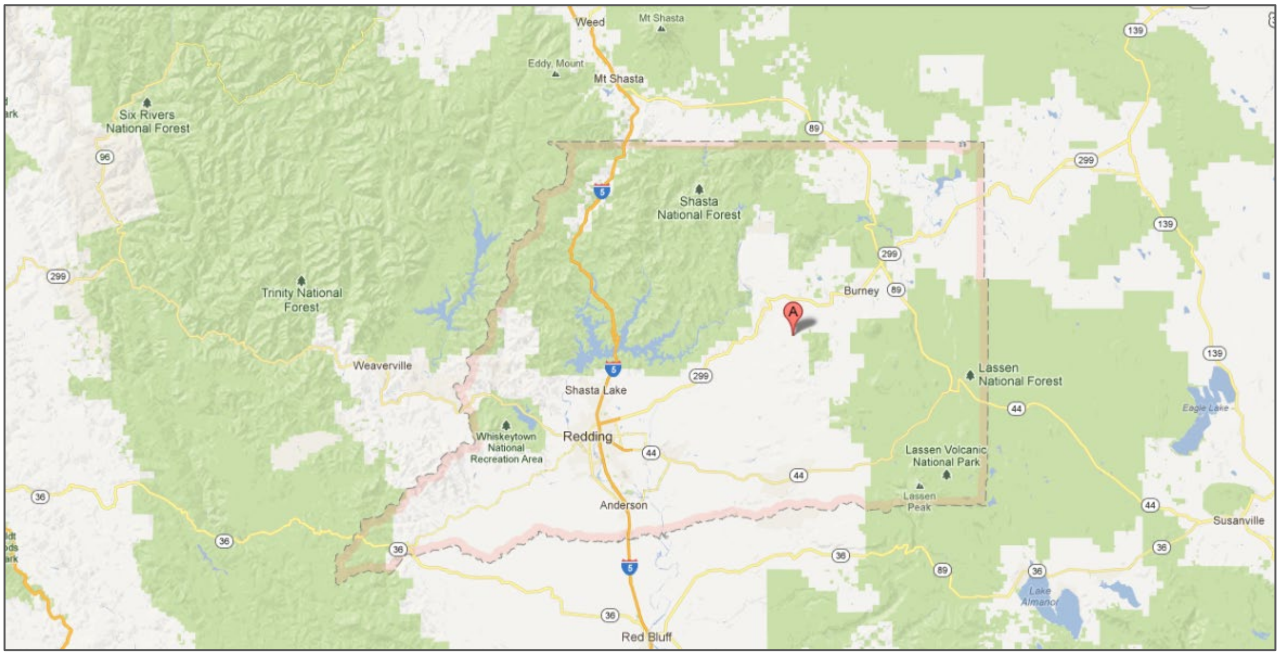
Agency Partners

Caltrans, District 2
City of Anderson
City of Redding
City of Shasta Lake
County of Shasta
Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA)
Dignity Health Connected Living (DHCL)
Healthy Shasta
North State Super Region (NSSR)
Pit River Tribe
Redding Rancheria (Yana, Wintu, Pit River)

surrounded by mountains to the west, north, and east. The Sacramento River flows through the center of the county and down the Sacramento Valley to the south. These attributes have contributed to the region's establishment as a center for recreation and tourism.

Figure 1 shows the topography and state highway/interstate layout of Shasta County.

Figure 1 – General Map of the Shasta Region



Introduction

The Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for the Shasta County region. Member agencies include the cities of Anderson, Redding, and Shasta Lake, the County of Shasta, and the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA).

As the region's MPO, SRTA prepares and updates a long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) every four years. The RTP is a federally and state-mandated plan that establishes a 20+ year vision for the region's transportation system. It identifies existing and future transportation needs, establishes goals and policies, and outlines a fiscally constrained list of projects and strategies that support mobility, safety, economic vitality, and quality of life for the region.

Additionally, under Senate Bill 275 (SB 375) SRTA is responsible for preparing an additional component to the RTP, called the Sustainable Communities Strategy, which is focused on demonstrating how integrated land use, housing, and transportation planning can reduce per-capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from passenger vehicles, consistent with reduction targets established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Collectively the RTP/SCS provides a programmatic approach to ensuring the region looks ahead to addressing the transportation needs of the region for all people, of all abilities, and for all modes of transportation, while considering future land use development and economic growth.

SRTA is seeking proposals from qualified environmental consultants to prepare California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation and related technical studies in support of the 2027 update to the RTP/SCS. This work will include preparation of either a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) or a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR), depending on the level of CEQA review determined appropriate.

Consultants should have extensive and recent experience with CEQA documentation for RTP/SCS projects, program-level environmental analysis, SB 375 GHG reduction strategies, SB 743-compliant VMT analysis, environmental justice and equity overlays, California's EMission FACtors air quality model (EMFAC), and California Air Resources Board (CARB) SCS submittals.

This procurement may be funded by federal and/or state sources, including FHWA PL, FTA, or other eligible funds.

Project Background

Every four years, SRTA updates its Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). These plans establish the region's long-range vision for transportation, land use, and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategies.

- In 2015, SRTA prepared a Programmatic EIR for the RTP/SCS.
- For updates in 2018 and 2022, SRTA prepared Supplemental EIRs to address updated RTP cycles.
- For the 2027 update, SRTA allows the possibility that recent changes in planning assumptions, CEQA case law, SB 743 implementation, and federal and state law requirements may warrant a more comprehensive environmental review.

SRTA is therefore seeking consultant services to:

- Complete all base tasks needed to support CEQA compliance, technical analysis, and CARB submittal.
- Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) that builds upon the 2015 Programmatic EIR and subsequent supplements, focusing on new or more severe impacts, regulatory changes, and emerging issues since the last RTP/SCS update.

Although prior EIRs used the EMFAC model for air quality and greenhouse gas analysis, there is currently not an approved air quality model for California due to changing federal priorities. At the time of publishing this RFP, it is unclear how this challenge will be successfully resolved. Therefore, the consultant should be able and prepare to move agilely and adapt as needed to a rapidly changing (and perhaps even contradictory) regulatory environment to help the agency ensure the RTP/SCS meets both federal and state environmental requirements.

Project Scope of Work

SRTA is seeking a qualified consultant to provide professional services to assist SRTA in preparing CEQA documentation, technical studies, and related support for the 2027 update to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS).

The consultant will prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) building upon the 2015 Programmatic EIR and subsequent SEIRs completed in 2018 and 2022. The SEIR will focus on new or more severe impacts, regulatory changes, and emerging issues since the last RTP/SCS update, while ensuring the environmental analysis complies with CEQA, SB 375, SB 743, and other applicable state and regional requirements.

Task 1. Project Initiation and Management

A kick-off meeting with SRTA and the selected consultant will be held at the commencement of the contract to establish and agree upon communication protocols, roles and responsibilities, expectations, and to review background information on the region. SRTA staff will explain the expected deliverables, progress reports, and invoicing procedures. Consultant and SRTA will also identify the frequency of project meetings to keep each party up-to-date and to address questions as they arise.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to:

- Kick-off meeting.
- Project Management Plan, including roles of the project manager and other team members.
- Progress reports summarizing task progress and deliverables, submitted with monthly invoices.

Task 2. Notice of Preparation

The consultant will review prior environmental documents (2015 Programmatic EIR, 2018 SEIR, 2022 SEIR), the adopted 2022 RTP/SCS, and draft assumptions for the 2027 RTP/SCS. This review will ensure that the scope of the Supplemental EIR focuses on new or more severe impacts, regulatory changes, and areas where additional analysis is warranted.

Based on this review, the consultant will prepare a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for circulation through the State Clearinghouse and assist SRTA in hosting at least one public scoping meeting. SRTA will file the necessary documents in Shasta County. The scoping process will be used to confirm the environmental topics that require detailed analysis in the Supplemental EIR.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to:

- Draft NOP for staff review and Final NOP for State Clearinghouse circulation.
- Up to 15 hardcopies of the NOP for public circulation and distribution.

- Submittal of documents to State Clearinghouse.
- Scoping meeting materials and summary of comments.

Consultants should assume SRTA staff may review each draft document up to three times before it is issued for public comment or final publication.

Task 3. Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)

The consultant will prepare a Draft and Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) that meets all CEQA requirements and incorporates applicable updates from recent legislation, CEQA Guidelines, and case law. The SEIR will focus on new or more severe impacts not previously addressed in the 2015 Program EIR, 2018 SEIR, and 2022 SEIR, while relying on prior analysis where appropriate.

The consultant will prepare a Draft SEIR for public circulation, respond to all comments received, and prepare a Final SEIR. The consultant will also prepare CEQA Findings of Fact, a Notice of Completion (NOC), and a Statement of Overriding Considerations if required. An updated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) will be developed. The consultant will also assist SRTA staff in preparing a Board resolution to certify the SEIR and adopt associated CEQA findings.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to:

- Administrative Draft SEIR for staff review
- Public Draft SEIR for circulation
- Final SEIR with Responses to Comments
- Draft and Final CEQA Findings of Fact
- Draft and Final Statement of Overriding Considerations (if required)
- Draft and Final Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)
- Draft and Final Notice of Completion (NOC)
- Draft and Final Board Resolution for SEIR certification and MMRP adoption
- Up to 30 hardcopies of the Draft and Final SEIR for distribution.
- Assistance with completing CEQA checklist for adopted RTP/SCS

Task 4. Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Estimations and Modeling

In the past, consultants have utilized speed bin outputs from SRTA's ShastaSIM travel demand model to prepare GHG emissions modeling using CARB's EMFAC model. As noted in the Project Background section above, the most recent EMFAC model is currently not approved by the EPA for use. Staff are in communication with the California Air Resources Board on recommendations what air quality model to use. While it is hoped EMFAC will be reapproved, the consultant must be prepared to adjust modeling approaches in response to a rapidly changing and sometimes conflicting regulatory environment with a minimum of delay to the overall project timeline, where possible. Consultant will work with SRTA's travel model consultant to ensure the proper tables are prepared for all required model years. Modeling shall include both “all vehicles” and “SB 375 category vehicles only.”

At a minimum, the consultant shall calculate the following years/scenarios:

- 2005 (baseline for SB 375 only).
- 2025 (base year)
- 2035 No Project.
- 2035 with RTP/SCS.
- 2045 No Project.
- 2045 with RTP/SCS.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to:

- EMFAC model outputs for each required year and summarized outputs, including “No Project” and RTP/SCS scenarios.
- Model outputs formatted for inclusion in CARB’s SCS Submittal Package.

Task 5: Scoping Meeting, Public Meetings, and Teleconference/Board Meetings

The consultant will assist SRTA in preparing and conducting a scoping meeting for the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Supplemental EIR. At least one scoping meeting will be required. The consultant should also plan to attend up to two SRTA Board of Directors meetings to present findings from the environmental review and respond to comments.

Following adoption of the RTP/SCS, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will conduct a technical evaluation to determine whether the region meets its assigned greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets. While this review is intended to be completed within 60 days, in practice it often extends six months or longer and typically involves multiple rounds of follow-up requests. The consultant should plan to attend up to six teleconference meetings with CARB staff during the evaluation process and may be asked to provide written responses or technical memoranda to address CARB’s questions.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to:

- Scoping meeting materials and facilitation.
- Materials and participation in up to two SRTA Board of Directors meetings.
- Materials and participation in up to six CARB teleconference meetings.
- Up to three technical memos addressing CARB questions on the adopted RTP/SCS.

Task 6: Off-Model Strategies, Policies, and Calculations

While ShastaSIM can model a range of strategies, not all greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction policies are fully captured in the model. The consultant will assist SRTA in identifying and quantifying the GHG and/or VMT reduction benefits of strategies that cannot be modeled or that require supplemental analysis.

For the 2027 update to the RTP/SCS, SRTA anticipates that off-model strategies may include—but are not limited to—telecommuting, active transportation enhancements, shared mobility, electric vehicle adoption, parking management, or infill development incentives. Staff should be familiar with CARB's accepted off-model strategy research and CalEEMod or other applicable tools for calculating off-model strategies. For purposes of this task, consultants should assume detailed analysis of up to seven off-model strategies.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to:

- Detailed analysis of a minimum of seven off-model strategies.
- Technical memo(s) summarizing estimated GHG and/or VMT reductions from off-model strategies.

Task 7: Complete SCS Submittal and Technical Responses

Using ShastaSIM and EMFAC outputs, Census data, GIS, and other relevant data sources, the consultant shall complete CARB's SCS Submittal Package Tables with assistance from SRTA staff and the travel demand modeling consultant. The consultant shall also prepare a technical memorandum documenting the metadata, assumptions, and methodologies used in preparing the submittal.

During CARB's evaluation of the adopted RTP/SCS, the consultant shall assist SRTA in preparing technical responses to written questions and supplemental data requests. These responses may take the form of technical memoranda or other written documentation. Coordination with CARB staff and participation in meetings are covered under Task 5; Task 7 is limited to preparation of the technical materials needed for submittal and follow-up.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to:

- Completed CARB SCS Submittal Package Tables.
- Technical memorandum providing metadata for the CARB package.
- Supplemental technical responses to CARB questions, as needed.

Options

SRTA reserves the right to amend the contract for unanticipated work necessary to complete or defend the environmental documents. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Different air quality models or other regulatory requirements due to a rapidly changing regulatory environment.
- Legal defensibility review and case law tracking.
- Additional focused technical studies (e.g., induced travel, climate adaptation overlays, EJ sensitivity testing).
- Preparation of expert declarations or litigation support materials.

SRTA welcomes additional suggestions and innovative approaches to help achieve project goals.

Project Schedule/Timeline

The 2027 Regional Transportation Plan is planned to be completed by October 2027, and consultant should develop a proposed project timeline that anticipates meeting that need. Consultant should expect to start the project within seven days or less after approval of a contract at the SRTA Board of Directors meeting on October 30, 2025.

Additionally, consultant should plan for possible discussions with state agencies regarding the SEIR, GHG/VMT analysis, and off-model analysis as they evaluate whether the RTP would achieve the states SB375 GHG reduction goal for up to nine months after adoption of the 2027 update to the RTP/SCS.

Proposal Contents

Written proposals submitted in response to this RFP shall not exceed 35 pages (excluding attachments). At a minimum, the following information should be included and clearly labeled as follows:

Introduction

- A transmittal letter should be included, signed by an officer who may contractually bind the firm or joint venture. The signature of the authorized representative attests that the information contained in the proposal is truthful, accurate, and complete at the time of submittal. The letter should include how the respondent heard of the procurement.
- The introduction should include a description of the firm containing the firm's name, address, legal form of the company (e.g., partnership, corporation, joint venture, etc.), status as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise DBE or non-DBE (note, consultant should provide DBE certification number if they are listed as a DBE), North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code, Tax Identification Number (TIN), annual gross receipts (may be a range), and the number of years the firm has been in business.

Proposal and Work Plan

- A work plan and schedule to complete the project scope of work, identifying milestones and deliverables.
- Statement of understanding of the scope of work, illustrating familiarity with the RTP/SCS process, CEQA requirements, and SRTA's goals.
- Discussion of the consultant's proposed technical approach and management approach.

Project Team

- An organizational chart showing the firm's approach towards the staffing and management of the project shall be provided. Titles, roles, and the number of staff required to fill those roles should be shown on the chart. The proposed relationships between staff should be shown as well.
- A staffing plan identifying the approximate number, expertise, and experience level of staff by role and responsibility based on anticipated work.

Resumes

- List of the personnel on the project team, including a summary of their qualifications and work experience (resumes may be included as an attachment). Resumes should include persons' active professional registrations and registration number, including expiration date. This includes any sub-consultants proposed for use.

Team Experience

- This segment should highlight or expand upon project experience. Elaborate on the proposed team's previous work as a team with other key staff and proposers listed.
- Describe staffing capability, workload, and record of meeting schedules on similar projects. Also describe ability to adapt to unexpected work. Finally, describe the feasibility of oversight, ability, and willingness to respond to SRTA requirements for this procurement.

Example Projects

- A representative list of <u>similar</u> projects completed within the last five years including:
  - Contracting firm
  - Contracting firm project manager
  - Contracting firm contact information
  - Contract amount
  - Date of contract
  - Date of completion
  - Consultant project manager and contact information
  - Project description

Additional Information

- Proposer should explain its approach and strategy for successfully completing similar projects, with all the necessary approvals within the shortest possible time frame. The project approach should be sufficient in detail to demonstrate the proposer's understanding of the project, its unique challenges, and the processes and procedures that must be followed. The proposer should identify the most critical steps in the successful completion of similar projects.
- Proposer should describe its tools, procedures, and techniques used to keep projects within budget and schedule.

- Proposer should provide a summary of experience achieving approval, clearance, and permitting according to local, state, and federal regulatory requirements.
- Proposer should explain why their team should be selected and include any other information they feel is relevant.

Cost Proposal

- The proposal shall be a firm offer for a minimum of 90 days and contain a statement to that effect. The proposal shall contain a statement that all activities performed within the proposed scope of work will be performed at a not-to-exceed price.
- A cost proposal worksheet shall be included, showing:
  - Fee schedule on a time (by personnel) and materials basis.
  - Cost by task, including Base Tasks, Option A, and Option B separately.
  - Total cost to complete the project under each CEQA pathway.
- The cost proposal shall be fully inclusive of all services, overhead, and direct expenses.

Addenda and Questions About This RFP

Interested applicants must subscribe to SRTA's bid posting webpage at http://www.srta.ca.gov/bids.aspx so that they are notified of any addenda to the RFP or responses to questions received. All questions regarding this RFP will be responded to collectively and made available for all interested applicants via the bid posting webpage on SRTA's website. Questions will be taken via email from prospective vendors until 3:00 p.m. on September 22, 2025. All responses to questions will be posted on the SRTA website no later than September 26, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. PDT.

Procurement Schedule

The anticipated procurement schedule is shown below in Table 1. Firm deadlines are shown in bold text.

Table 1 – Procurement Schedule

Tasks	Deadline
Release RFP	September 12, 2025
Interested Vendor Questions Due	**September 22, 2025, by 3:00 p.m. PDT**
SRTA Response to Vendor Questions	**September 26, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. PDT**
Vendor Proposals Due	**October 13, 2025, by 3:00 p.m. PDT (no postmarks accepted)**
Evaluation and Ranking of Proposals	October 14–20, 2025

Interviews (if necessary)	October 16–17, 2025
Consultant-SRTA contract negotiation, including budget and scope of work	October 21–November 4, 2025
SRTA Board of Directors Approval	**October 30, 2025**
Anticipated Contract Start	November 10, 2025

Proposal Submittal

Please submit consultant proposals via email, USPS, or delivery to:

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
Attn: Laurent Beauregard
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001
srta@srta.ca.gov

Proposal submittals <u>must</u> be received at the SRTA office before <u>3:00 p.m. PDT on</u> October 13, 2025. No proposals will be accepted after this time. **Postmarks are not acceptable**. Proposal receipt will be acknowledged by email.

The cost of preparing and submitting a proposal, pre-contract meetings, and participating in an interview—if held—are at the sole expense of the proposer. SRTA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, and to waive any informality, technical defect, or clerical error in any proposal at SRTA's discretion. Solicitation of proposals in no way obligates SRTA to contract with any firm or individual. The decision to approve and award a contract is at the discretion of SRTA.

Proposal Evaluation

A panel will be formed to evaluate the proposals via consensus scoring and make a recommendation in consultation with the executive director, which will then go to the SRTA Board of Directors for approval. The proposal evaluation will be based on the scoring criteria presented in Table 2.

Table 2 – Proposal Scoring Criteria

Criteria	Maximum Possible Points
Technical Approach & Understanding of Scope	30
Qualifications and Experience of Firm and Team	25

Cost Proposal & Value	20
References & Past Performance	10
Knowledge of Shasta Region	5
Ability of consultant to conduct the necessary effective outreach public outreach component of the project	5
DBE participation level	5
Total	**100**

In circumstances where a recommendation cannot be made based on the proposals alone, the highest ranked consultants may be invited to an interview where they may give a brief presentation of no more than 15 minutes followed by up to 15 minutes of Q&A. SRTA will evaluate the interview using the criteria presented below in Table 3, and the interview score will then be added to the proposal score above to determine the final ranking. The evaluation panel will then make a recommendation based upon the final cumulative ranking in consultation with the executive director, which will go to the board of directors for approval.

Table 3 – Interview Scoring Criteria (if conducted)

Criteria	Maximum Possible Points
Quality of consultant's presentation (content and visuals)	20
Effectiveness of presentation and responsiveness, demonstrating concise and focused communication.	20
Qualifications and experience of the consultant team	10
Total	**50**

Contract Amount and Award

The anticipated start date is November 10, 2025, with a June 30, 2029, contract expiration, or sooner if work is completed. Consultant selection will be based on a combination of funding availability and the value of the services to be provided. ***SRTA staff has estimated a project budget of $117,000.***

Barring any delays (e.g., the need for a budget amendment, extension of the RFP response date, etc.), the SRTA Executive Director will schedule the proposed technical services agreement for consideration by the SRTA Board of Directors on October 30, 2025. The agreement is not in force until approved by the SRTA Board of Directors and written authorization to proceed is provided to the selected consultant.

Additional Information and Terms

Standard Consulting Agreement

SRTA's standard Technical Services Agreement (TSA) will be used for the agreement between SRTA and the selected consultant. SRTA's TSA template is provided by separate attachment (Attachment C) to the RFP distribution.

Protest Procedure

All protests will follow the SRTA protest procedures for procurements as delineated in the appendix (Attachment 1).

Debriefing

SRTA will provide an informal debriefing to interested consultants not selected for this contract upon request once a final contract has been negotiated and executed.

Public Records Act

All proposals submitted in response to the RFP will become the exclusive property of SRTA. At such time as a contract is executed, all bids and proposals related to that contract become a matter of public record and will be regarded as public records and subject to the Public Records Act (Gov. Code Section 6254 et. seq.).

If consultant feels that any information in their proposal is "proprietary" in nature, then consultant must provide a second proposal (clearly labeled) with that information removed, which would be shared in the event of any Public Records Act request. Otherwise, their submitted proposal will be provided in the event of a Public Records Act request and consultant, by submitting a proposal to this RFP, waives any claims against and hold SRTA harmless for the release of their proposal.

In the event of litigation concerning the disclosure of any records, SRTA's sole involvement will be as a stakeholder, retaining the records until otherwise ordered by a court. The proposer, at its sole expense and risk, shall be fully responsible for any, and all, fees for prosecuting or defending any action concerning the records and shall indemnify and hold SRTA harmless from all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, in connection with, any such action.

Modification or Withdrawal of Proposal

Any proposal received prior to the deadline may be withdrawn or modified either personally, through e-mail, or by written request of the consultant. To be considered, the modification must be received in writing (email acceptable) prior to the deadline. Proposals may be withdrawn following the proposal deadline for good cause; please consult with the RFP contact person to discuss this.

RFP Addendum or Addenda

Any changes to the RFP will be made by written addenda issued by SRTA and shall be considered part of the RFP. The RFP deadline may be extended dependent upon the nature of the changes issued. Upon issuance, such addenda shall be incorporated into the agreement documents, and shall prevail over inconsistent provisions of earlier issued documentation. Any addenda will be posted on-line only. It will be the consultant's responsibility to assure that all addenda are incorporated into the proposal as required according to all the terms and conditions for submittal of the proposal. In no event will SRTA modify the RFP with less than five (5) days remaining to the deadline, without extending the RFP deadline.

Verbal Agreement or Conversation

No prior, current, or post-award verbal conversations or agreement(s) with any officer, agent, or employee of SRTA shall affect or modify any terms or obligations of this RFP, or any contract resulting from this procurement.

Special Funding Considerations

Any contract resulting from this RFP will be financed with funds available to SRTA. The contract for this service is contingent upon the provision of these funds to SRTA. In the event these funds are reduced or eliminated, SRTA reserves the right to terminate or revise any contract.

Alternatives

Consultants may not alter objectives and deliverables of the RFP in the response to the RFP. If the consultant brings to SRTA's attention, at least ten (10) days before the RFP deadline, an alternative end product than the RFP delineates, SRTA reserves the right to cancel the RFP and re-bid the project

DBE Requirement

SRTA has determined that disadvantaged business enterprises, as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, will have the opportunity to compete fairly for contracts financed, in whole or in part, with federal funds. For this procurement, SRTA has a disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) goal of 22.2%. SRTA encourages respondents to include the participation of DBE businesses within your proposal.

Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action

In awarding a contract to a consultant, SRTA includes language within the contract which requires the consultant to certify their compliance with federal regulations.

Attachment

Attachment 1 – SRTA's protest Procedures for Procurements
Attachment 2 – Hyperlink to SRTA's Technical Services Agreement Template is located here: https://www.srta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5589/2021-Technical-Services-Agreement-Draft
Attachment 3 - SRTA's Preliminary 2022 RTP/SCS Strategies: https://www.srta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5648/SRTA-Preliminary-2022RTP-SCS-Strategies
Attachment 4 - CARB's SCS Submittal Package:

- Example Guidelines: https://www.srta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5649/CARB-SCS-Submittal-Package-Summary-Guide-July2020
- Example Tables: https://www.srta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5650/CARB-SCS-Submittal-Package-Example-Tables-July2020

Attachment 5 - SRTA's previous RTP/SCS products

- RTP homepage: https://www.srta.ca.gov/142/Regional-Transportation-Plan
- 2022 RTP/SCS and SEIR: https://www.srta.ca.gov/355/2022-Regional-Transportation-Plan
- 2018 RTP/SCS and SEIR: https://www.srta.ca.gov/300/2018-RTP
- 2015 RTP/SCS and Programmatic EIR: https://www.srta.ca.gov/329/2015-RTP
- 2010 RTP/SCS and EIR: https://www.srta.ca.gov/301/2010-RTP

Attachment B SEIR Proposal Evalutation

Firm Name	**30 points** Technical Approach & Understanding of Scope	**25 points** Qualifications and Experience of Firm and Team	**20 Points** Cost Proposal & Value	**10 Points** References & Past Performance	**5 points** Knowledge of Shasta Region	**5 Points** Ability of consultant to conduct the necessary effective outreach public outreach component of the project	**Total out of 95 Points**	**Proposed Budget**
ECORP	28	23	19	9	5	4	88	$ 116,367
SOAR	20	19	16	7	3	3	68	$ 113,416

Attachment C

2026-03

TECHNICAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE SHASTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY AND
ECORP Consulting Inc. FOR PREPARATION OF Environmental Support Services for The 2027 Update to SRTA's Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy

This Agreement is entered into between the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency ("SRTA") and ECORP Consulting Inc. ("Consultant") for the purpose of Environmental Support Services for The 2027 Update to SRTA's Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

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1. <u>RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONSULTANT</u>

A) Consultant shall complete the services outlined in the scope of work shown in Attachment A.

B) As required by California Government Code Section 7550, each document or report prepared by Consultant, for or under the direction of SRTA pursuant to this Agreement, shall contain the numbers and dollar amount of the Agreement and all subcontracts under the Agreement relating to the preparation of the document or written report. If multiple documents or written reports are the subject of the agreement or subcontracts, the disclosure section may also contain a statement indicating that the total contract amount represents compensation for multiple documents or written reports. Consultant shall label the bottom of the last page of the document or report as follows: Shasta Regional Transportation Agency, Agreement number, and dollar amount. If more than one document or report is produced under this Agreement, Consultant shall add: "This [document or report] is one of [number] produced under this Agreement."

2. <u>RESPONSIBILITIES OF SRTA</u>

A) SRTA shall compensate Consultant as set forth in section 3 of this Agreement and shall monitor Consultant's performance.

B) SRTA shall review draft documents in a timely manner.

C) SRTA will provide the following items, in a timely manner:
- Access to previous RTP/SCS documents and SEIRs (2015, 2018, 2022)
- ShastaSIM travel model outputs, including speed-bin tables
- GHG modeling inputs and any CARB guidance received
- Copies of relevant plans, GIS layers, and demographic datasets
- Timely review of draft deliverables

- Coordination support with local jurisdictions and CARB

3. KEY PERSONNEL

The Consultant shall retain the contract project manager as specified within this Agreement. If the project manager is revised, SRTA shall require notice within seven (7) days of the change. SRTA retains the right to terminate the contract if the project manager change is not acceptable to SRTA.

4. COMPENSATION

Compensation shall be based on expenses associated with the bid deliverables, per the budget shown in Attachment B. Compensation shall not exceed $116,367 for the services described in both Attachments A and B.

5. BILLING AND PAYMENT

Consultant shall submit to SRTA within thirty days (30) after completion of the services described in section 1, an itemized, mailed or emailed invoice of services rendered and an accompanying progress report. Invoices should be sent to either the street address or email address provided in Section 21. Consultant may submit periodic invoices (no more than twelve per year) as work is completed during the term of this Agreement; however, not less than quarterly Consultant shall submit an invoice and progress report **within ten days following the close of the quarter**. SRTA's quarters end on the following dates:

- Q1 – September 30
- Q2 – December 31
- Q3 – March 31
- Q4 – June 30

SRTA shall make payment within 30 days of receipt of Consultant's correct and approved invoice(s). All requests for payment must include the following:

a. Consultant's name;
b. Invoice date and number;
c. Reference to project name and number;
d. Narrative of services performed in the period by task, and any agreed-upon deliverables per Attachments A and B;
e. Percentage of project that is complete;
f. Invoice support documentation; and
g. Amount of the invoice.

For travel and subsistence (per diem) expenses of Consultant and its subcontractors, Consultant rates shall not exceed rates authorized to be paid rank and file State employees under current State Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) rules. If the rates invoiced by Consultant are in excess of DPA rates, SRTA will not reimburse those amounts in excess of the DPA rates.

Consultant shall agree, and shall require its subcontractors to agree, that the Contract Cost Principles and Procedures, 48 CFR, Federal Acquisition Regulations System, Chapter 1, Part 31, et seq., shall be used to determine the allowability of individual project cost items (contractors shall refer to 2 CFR, Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and/or parties shall comply with applicable regulations (i) 2 CFR part 220, ‘‘Cost Principles for Educational Institutions (OMB Circular A–21);’’ and (ii) 2 CFR part 230, ‘‘Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations (OMB Circular A–122)).

Consultant, and its subcontractors, shall establish and maintain an accounting system conforming to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) to support Requests for Reimbursement which segregate and accumulate the costs of work elements by line item (i.e., direct labor, other direct costs, consultants/subcontractor, etc.) and enable the determination of incurred costs at interim points of completion, and also provide support for reimbursement payment vouchers or invoices.

For the purpose of determining compliance with Title 2, California Government Code, Chapter 6.5, Article 2, Section 8546.7, Consultant and its subcontractors shall each maintain and make available for inspection all books, documents, papers, accounting records, and other evidence pertaining to the performance of such contracts and/or agreements, including, but not limited to, the costs of administering those various contracts and/or agreements. All of the above referenced parties shall make such contracts and/or agreements available at their respective offices at all reasonable times during the entire period of the contract duration and for three (3) years from the date of final payment to Consultant or until audit resolution is achieved for each annual SRTA Overall Work Program Agreement, whichever is later. The State, the California State Auditor, or any duly authorized representative of the State or the United States Department of Transportation, shall each have access to any books, records, and documents that are pertinent to the fulfillment of the contracts/ and/or agreements for audits, examinations, excerpts, and transactions, and Consultant and its subcontractors shall furnish copies thereof if requested.

6. <u>TERM OF AGREEMENT AND SCHEDULE</u>

This Agreement shall commence on the date of SRTA board of directors, or executive director, signing and shall terminate upon completion of the services described in section 1 and Attachment A, or on June 30, 2029, whichever is earlier, unless this Agreement is terminated under the provisions of Section 6. of this Agreement. If the project scope is not complete by the termination date, the Agreement may be extended for a specific period without any change in compensation to the Consultant by a written agreement between the Consultant and the executive director.

Attachment A reflects the project schedule and scope of work.

7. SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractor contracts containing Federal and State planning funds are required to be competitively bid and awarded in accordance with Title 49, CFR, Part 18, Section 18.37 and consistent with Local Assistance Procedure Manual, Ch. 10 or successors thereto.

8. TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

A) Termination for Convenience – This Agreement may be terminated by either party for any reason and at any time by giving no less than thirty (30) days written notice of such termination to the other party and specifying the effective date thereof.

B) Termination for Cause – If Consultant materially fails to perform duties to the satisfaction of SRTA or if Consultant fails to fulfill in a timely and professional manner obligations under this Agreement, or if Consultant violates any of the terms or provisions of this Agreement, then SRTA shall have the right to terminate this Agreement for cause effective immediately upon SRTA giving written notice thereof to Consultant.

   If termination for cause is given by SRTA to Consultant and it is later determined that Consultant was not in default or the default was excusable, then the notice of termination shall be deemed to have been given without cause pursuant to paragraph A of this section.

C) Immediate Termination – SRTA may terminate this Agreement immediately upon oral and/or written notice should funding cease, or be materially decreased, during the term of this Agreement.

D) Stop Work Order – SRTA may, in order to investigate a possible deficiently-performing consultant or, in some instances protect itself and/or consultant from financial risk associated with lapsed funding, may request a stop order on all consultant work associated with this Agreement. Such stop work order will be delivered in writing to the consultant and shall be effective immediately.

E) SRTA's right to terminate this Agreement may be exercised by the Executive Director, or his/her designee.

F) Disposition of, Title to and Payment for Work upon Expiration or Termination – Upon expiration of this Agreement or termination for cause or termination for the convenience of a party, all finished or unfinished documents and other materials (e.g. finished and unfinished reports, data, studies, photographs, charts, and other documents), if any, and all rights therein shall become, at the option of SRTA, the property of and shall be promptly returned to SRTA, although Consultant may retain a copy of such work for its personal records only. Unless otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, any copyrightable or patentable work created by Consultant under this Agreement shall be deemed a "work made for hire" for purposes of copyright or patent law and only SRTA shall be entitled to claim or apply for the copyright or patent thereof.

G) Payment Terms Upon Termination – Consultant shall only be paid for services satisfactorily completed and provided prior to the notice of termination. Consultant shall be paid for the percentage of work satisfactorily completed under the Agreement, as agreed to by the agency, to the total compensation authorized by the Agreement, less payments of compensation previously made.

9. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; AMENDMENTS

A) This Agreement supersedes all previous agreements relating to the subject of this Agreement and constitutes the entire understanding of the parties hereto. Consultant shall be entitled to no other benefits other than those specified herein. Consultant specifically acknowledges that in entering into and executing this Agreement, Consultant relies solely upon the provisions contained in this Agreement and no others.

B) No changes, amendments, or alterations shall be effective unless in writing and signed by both parties. However, minor amendments which do not result in a substantial or functional change to the original intent of the Agreement and do not cause an increase to the maximum amount payable under this Agreement may be agreed to in writing between Consultant and the executive director. If the proposed minor amendment alters the project schedule, a revised project schedule will be required from the Consultant for this Agreement.

C) The headings that appear in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect the meaning or construction of this Agreement.

10. NONASSIGNMENT OF AGREEMENT; NON-WAIVER

Inasmuch as this Agreement is intended to secure the specialized services of the Consultant, Consultant may not assign, transfer, delegate or sublet any interest herein without the prior written consent of SRTA. The waiver by SRTA of any breach of any requirement of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach.

11. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF CONSULTANT

Consultant shall, during the entire term of this Agreement, be construed to be an independent contractor and nothing in this Agreement is intended nor shall be construed to create an employer-employee relationship, a joint venture relationship, or to allow SRTA to exercise discretion or control over the professional manner in which Consultant performs the services which are the subject matter of this Agreement; provided, however, that the services to be provided by Consultant shall be provided in a manner consistent with the professional standards applicable to such services. The interest of SRTA is to ensure that services shall be rendered and performed in a competent, efficient, timely and satisfactory manner. Consultant shall be fully responsible for payment of all taxes due to the State of California or the federal government which would be withheld from compensation if Consultant were an SRTA employee. SRTA shall not be liable for deductions for any amount, for any purpose, from Consultant's compensation. Consultant shall not be eligible for coverage under SRTA workers' compensation insurance plan nor shall Consultant be eligible for any other SRTA benefit. Consultant must issue W-2 and 941 Forms for income and employment tax purposes, for all of Consultant's assigned personnel under the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

12. INDEMNIFICATION

Consultant shall defend, hold harmless, and indemnify SRTA, its elected officials, officers, employees, and agents against all claims, suits, actions, costs, expenses (including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees of SRTA counsel and counsel retained by SRTA, expert fees, litigation costs, and investigation costs), damages, judgments, or decrees by reason of any person's or persons' injury, including death, or property (including property of SRTA) being damaged by the negligent acts, willful acts, or errors or omissions of the Consultant or any of Consultant's subcontractors, any person employed under Consultant, or under any subcontractor, or in any capacity during the progress of the work, except when the injury or loss is caused by the sole negligence or intentional wrongdoing of SRTA. Consultant shall also defend and indemnify SRTA for any adverse determination made by the Internal Revenue Service or the State Franchise Tax Board and/or any other taxing or regulatory agency and shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless SRTA with respect to Consultant's "independent contractor" status that would establish a liability on SRTA for failure to make social security deductions or contributions or income tax withholding payments, or any other legally mandated payment.

For professional services provided under this Agreement, Consultant shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless SRTA, its elected officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, losses, liabilities, damage, and costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, to the extent caused by the performance of the professional services provided under this Agreement.

13. INSURANCE COVERAGE

A) Consultant and any subcontractor shall obtain, from an insurance carrier authorized to transact business in the State of California, and maintain continuously during the term of this Agreement Commercial General Liability Insurance, including coverage for owned and non-owned automobiles, and other insurance necessary to protect SRTA and the public with limits of liability of not less than $1 million combined single limit bodily injury and property damage; such insurance shall be primary as to any other insurance maintained by SRTA.

B) Consultant and any subcontractor shall obtain and maintain continuously required Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance to cover Consultant, subcontractor, Consultant's partner(s), subcontractor's partner(s), Consultant's employees, and subcontractor(s) employees with an insurance carrier authorized to transact business in the State of California covering the full liability for compensation for injury to those employed by Consultant or subcontractor. Consultant hereby certifies that Consultant is aware of the provisions of section 3700 of the Labor Code which requires every employer to insure against liability for workers' compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of the Labor Code, and Consultant will comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of the work of this Agreement.

C) Consultant shall obtain and maintain continuously a policy of Errors and Omissions coverage with limits of liability of not less than $1 million.

D) Consultant shall require subcontractors to furnish satisfactory proof to them that liability and workers' compensation and other required types of insurance have been obtained and are maintained similar to that required of Consultant pursuant to this Agreement. Consultant shall not allow any contract or subcontract to continue without proper insurance in effect after notification of the lapse of requisite insurance.

E) With regard to all insurance coverage required by this Agreement:

(1) Any deductible or self-insured retention exceeding $25,000 for Consultant or subcontractor shall be disclosed to and be subject to approval by SRTA prior to the effective date of this Agreement.

(2) If any insurance coverage required hereunder is provided on a "claims made" rather than "occurrence" form, Consultant or subcontractor shall maintain such insurance coverage with an effective date earlier or equal to the effective date of the Agreement and continue coverage for a period of three years after the expiration of the Agreement and any extensions thereof. In lieu of maintaining post-agreement expiration coverage as specified above, Consultant or subcontractor may satisfy this provision by purchasing tail coverage for the claims-made policy. Such tail coverage shall, at a minimum, provide coverage for claims received and reported three years after the expiration date of the Agreement.

(3) All insurance (except workers' compensation and professional liability) shall include an endorsement or an amendment to the policy of insurance which names the *Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA), its elected officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers as an additional insured* and provides that coverage *shall not be reduced or canceled without 30 days written prior notice certain to SRTA.* The Additional Insured coverage shall be equal to Insurance Service Office endorsement CG 20 10 for on-going operations and CG 20 37 for completed operations.

(4) Each insurance policy (except for workers' compensation and professional liability policies), or endorsement thereto, shall contain a "separation of insureds" clause which shall read:

"Separation of Insureds."

Except with respect to the Limits of Insurance, and any rights or duties specifically assigned in this Coverage Part to the first Named Insured, this insurance applies:

a) As if each Named Insured were the only Named Insured; and

b) Separately to each suit insured against whom a claim is made or suit is brought."

(5) Consultant shall provide SRTA with an endorsement or amendment to Consultant's policy of insurance as evidence of insurance protection before the effective date of this Agreement. The accountant/finance officer, or his designee, shall approve the insurance certificate. A copy of the insurance certificate will be kept in the project file.

(6) The insurance required herein shall be in effect at all times during the term of the Agreement. In the event any insurance coverage expires at any time during the term of the Agreement, Consultant shall provide, at least twenty (20) days prior to said expiration date, a new endorsement or policy amendment evidencing insurance coverage as provided for herein for not less than the remainder of the term of the Agreement or for a period of not less than one year. In the event Consultant fails to keep in effect at all times insurance coverage as herein provided and a renewal endorsement or policy amendment is not provided within ten (10) days of the expiration of the endorsement or policy amendment in effect at inception of the Agreement, SRTA may, in addition to any other remedies it may have, terminate the Agreement upon the occurrence of such event and pay in full all contractual invoices for work completed prior to expiration of insurance.

(7) If the endorsement or amendment does not reflect the limits of liability provided by the policy of insurance, Consultant shall provide SRTA a certificate of insurance reflecting those limits.

14. NOTICE OF CLAIM/APPLICABLE LAW/VENUE

A) If any claim for damages is filed with Consultant or if any lawsuit is instituted concerning Consultant's performance under this Agreement and that in any way, directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, affects or might reasonably affect SRTA, Consultant shall give prompt and timely notice thereof to SRTA. Notice shall be prompt and timely if given within thirty (30) days following the date of receipt of a claim or ten days following the date of service of process of a lawsuit.

B) Any dispute between the parties, and the interpretation of this Agreement, shall be governed by the laws of the State of California. Any litigation shall be venued in Shasta County.

15. FEDERAL CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES

A) The Consultant shall adhere to the requirements contained in SRTA's annual Certification and Assurances (FHWA and FTA "Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification") submitted as part of SRTA's OWP, pursuant to 23 CFR 450.334 and 23 U.S.C. 134. This Certification shall be published annually in SRTA'S OWP. Such requirements shall apply to the Consultant to the same extent as SRTA and may include, but are not limited to:

(1) 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this subpart;

(2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, section 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93.

(3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title VI Assurance executed by California under 23 U.S.C. 324 and 29 U.S.C. 794;

(4) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;

(5) 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;

(6) 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;

(7) The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal

financial assistance;

(8) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and

(9) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

B) The Consultant shall additionally comply with the requirements contained in the annual FTA "Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance," including "Certifications and Assurances Required of Each Applicant" and the "Lobbying Certification" in compliance with 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53; published annually in SRTA'S OWP and found online at http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/12825_93.html. Such assurances shall apply to the Consultant to the same extent as SRTA, including but not limited to the following areas:
(1) Authority of Applicant and its Representatives;
(2) Standard Assurances;
(3) Intergovernmental Review Assurance;
(4) Nondiscrimination Assurance;
(5) Suspension and Debarment Certification;
(6) U.S. OMB Assurances in SF-424B and SF-424D.

16. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY/NONDISCRIMINATION

A) In the performance of work undertaken pursuant to this Agreement, the Consultant for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest, shall affirmatively require that its employees and subcontractors shall not unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment, against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, physical disability (including HIV and AIDS), mental disability, medical condition (including cancer), age (over 40), marital status, denial of family and medical care leave, and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

B) The Consultant shall ensure that the evaluation and treatment of its employees and applicants for employment, as well as its subcontractors, are free from such discrimination and harassment. The Consultant shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code, Section 12900 et seq.) and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder (California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Section 7285.0 et seq.). The applicable regulations of the Fair Employment and Housing Commission implementing the Government Code sections referenced above, are incorporated into this Agreement by reference and made a part hereof as set forth in full. The Consultant shall give written notice of their obligations under this clause to labor organizations with which they have collective bargaining or other labor agreements.

C) In the event of the Consultant's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination provisions of this Agreement, SRTA shall impose such contract sanctions as it, the DOT, or other applicable funding agency may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:
   (1) Withholding of payments to the Consultant under this Agreement until the Consultant complies; and/or
   (2) Cancellation, termination or suspension of the Agreement, in whole or in part.

D) Consultant shall permit access to all records of employment, employment advertisements, application forms, and other pertinent data and records by the State Fair Employment Practices and Housing Commission or any other agency of the State of California designated by the State to investigate compliance with this section.

E) The Consultant shall include the provisions of this Section in every agreement with its subcontractor(s). The Consultant shall take such action with respect to any such agreement as SRTA, the DOT, or other applicable funding agency may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance.

17. <u>COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS</u>

A) Consultant will observe and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and codes which relate to the services to be provided pursuant to this Agreement.

B) Consultant agrees to adhere to the Buy America regulations which apply to federally- assisted, typically development and/or construction activities subject to a NEPA determination, procurements exceeding certain amounts. Buy America regulations require Consultant to provide goods produced or manufactured in the US, unless the federal government has granted a waiver authorized by those regulations.

   In addition to FTA's Buy America Act, which requires that the steel, iron, and manufactured goods used in an FTA-funded project are produced in the United States (49 U.S.C. § 5323(j)(1)), the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) (Public Law 117-58, div. G § 70914(a)) now requires that construction materials used in infrastructure projects are also produced in the United States. Refer to terms and conditions in FTA's Master Agreement Section 15. The BABA requirement applies to this grant, in addition to the Buy America Act, except to the extent a waiver of either requirements may apply.

C) When using federal funds, Consultant will, for any contract of over $30,000, abide by lobbying disclosure requirements, per compliance with 31 U.S.C. 1352. For contracts which exceed $100,000, Consultant shall require the following language of this subsection to be included in all subcontracts.

(1) By signing this Agreement, Consultant certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that no state or federal funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the Consultant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any state or federal agency, a Member of the State Legislature or United States Congress, an officer or employee of the Legislature or Congress, or any employee of a Member of the Legislature or Congress in connection with the awarding of any state or federal contract, the making of any state or federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, or the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any state or federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than state or federal funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the Consultant shall complete and submit Federal Standard Form-LL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with those form instructions.

(3) This certification is a material representation of fact, upon which reliance was placed when this Agreement was entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S.C. and by the MFTA between SRTA and the state or, alternatively, the grant agreement with the respective funding entity. Any persons who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and more than $100,000 for each such failure.

D) Consultant acknowledges that the provisions of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, as amended, 31 U.S.C. § § 3801 et seq . and U.S. DOT regulations, "Program Fraud Civil Remedies," 49 C.F.R. Part 31, apply to its actions pertaining to this Project. Upon execution of the underlying contract, the Consultant certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of any statement it has made, it makes, it may make, or causes to be made, pertaining to the underlying contract or the FTA assisted project for which this contract work is being performed. In addition to other penalties that may be applicable, the Consultant further acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 on the Consultant to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

Consultant also acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification to the Federal Government under a contract connected with a project that is financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance originally awarded by FTA under the authority of 49 U.S.C. § 5307, the Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 49 U.S.C. § 5307(n)(1) on the Consultant, to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

E) Consultant is required to acknowledge the mandatory standards and policies related to every efficiency that are contained in the State Energy Conservation Plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6321, et. seq.).

F) Consultant acknowledges that it will not enter into contracts for over $25,000 with suspended or debarred consultants (Executive Order 12549; 49 CFR part 29). This contract is a covered transaction for purposes of 49 CFR Part 29. As such, Consultant is required to verify that neither itself, its principals, as defined at 49 CFR 29.995, or affiliates, as defined at 49 CFR 29.905, are excluded or disqualified as defined at 49 CFR 29.940 and 29.945.

Consultant is required to comply with 49 CFR 29, Subpart C and must include the requirement to comply with 49 CFR 29, Subpart C in any lower tier covered transaction it enters into.

By signing and submitting its bid or proposal, Consultant certifies as follows:

The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact relied upon by SRTA. If it is later determined that the Consultant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to remedies available to SRTA, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment. Consultant agrees to comply with the requirements of 49 CFR 29, Subpart C while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. Consultant further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

G) Consultant will comply with appropriate Patent and Rights in Data requirements (37 C.F.R. Part 401 and 49 C.F.R. Part 18).

H) Consultant will comply with 49 U.S.C. 40118 in accordance with the General Service Administration's regulations at 41 C.F.R. Part 301-10.

I) Consultant, in accordance with 49 U.S.C. Section 5325(b)(3), will ensure that all federally assisted contracts and subcontracts including program management, architectural engineering, feasibility studies, preliminary engineering, design, architectural, engineering, surveying, mapping or related services must be performed (i.e. a consultant cannot incur and invoice the agency any unallowable, unallocable, or unreasonable costs prohibited by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and/or the contract terms and conditions) and audited in accordance with FAR Part 31 cost principles. The consultant, its sub-consultants, and sub-recipients must accept FAR indirect cost rates for one-year applicable accounting periods established by a cognizant federal or state government agency, if those rates are not currently under dispute, and these established rates will apply for purposes of contract estimation, negotiation, administration, reporting, change order, options, and payments, not limited by administrative or de facto ceilings.

J) Consultant shall at all times comply with all applicable Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations, policies, procedures and directives, including without limitation those listed directly or by reference in the Master Agreement between SRTA and FTA, as they may be amended or promulgated from time to time during the term of this contract. Consultant's failure to so comply shall constitute a material breach of this contract.

K) Consultant agrees to comply with all the requirements of Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 6962), including but not limited to the regulatory provisions of 40 CFR Part 247, and Executive Order 12873, as they apply to the procurement of the items designated in Subpart B of 40 CFR Part 247.

L) SRTA and Consultant acknowledge and agree that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the underlying contract, absent the express written consent by the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to this contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to SRTA, Consultant, or any other party (whether or not a party to that contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from the underlying contract.

M) The preceding provisions include, in part, certain Standard Terms and Conditions required by DOT, whether or not expressly set forth in the preceding contract provisions. All contractual provisions required by DOT, as set forth in FTA Circular 4220.1E are hereby incorporated by reference. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, all FTA mandated terms shall be deemed to control in the event of a conflict with other provisions contained in this Agreement. The Consultant shall not perform any act, fail to perform any act, or refuse to comply with any SRTA requests which would cause SRTA to be in violation of the FTA terms and conditions.

18. ACCESS TO RECORDS/RETENTION

SRTA, federal, and state officials shall have, without charge, access to any books, documents, papers, and records of Consultant which are directly pertinent to the subject matter of this Agreement for the purpose of auditing or examining the activities of Consultant or SRTA. Except where longer retention is required by federal or state law, Consultant shall maintain all records for five years after SRTA makes final payment hereunder.

19. LICENSES AND PERMITS

Consultant shall possess and maintain all necessary licenses, permits, certificates, and credentials required by the laws of the United States, the State of California, County of Shasta, and all other appropriate governmental agencies, including any certification and credentials required by SRTA. Failure to maintain the licenses, permits, certificates, and credentials shall be deemed a breach of this Agreement and constitutes grounds for the termination of this Agreement by SRTA.

20. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Consultant shall perform the services required by this Agreement in accordance with the industry and/or professional standards applicable to Consultant's services.

21. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Consultant, including its officers and employees, is required, prior to entering into this Agreement, to inform agency of any real or apparent organizational conflict of interest. Such organizational conflict of interest exists when the nature of the work to be performed under a contract may, without some restriction on future activities, results in an unfair competitive advantage to the Consultant, or may impact the Consultant's objectivity in performing the contract work.

22. NOTICES

A) Any notice required to be given pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent first-class mail and/or email to the following addresses:

If to SRTA: Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
Attn: Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001
srta@srta.ca.gov

If to Consultant: ECORP Consulting Inc.
Attn: Seth Myers, Project Manager
55 Hanover Lane
Chico, CA 95973
smyers@ecorpconsulting.com

B) Notice shall be deemed to be effective two days after mailing. For more expedient delivery, an email may be used for more administrative types of communication, with the provision there is record of receipt of the transmission. Any oral notice authorized by this Agreement shall be deemed to be effective immediately.

23. CONFIDENTIALITY

During the term of this Agreement, both parties may have access to information that is confidential or proprietary in nature. Both parties agree to preserve the confidentiality of, and to not disclose, any such information to any third party without the express written consent of the other party or as required by law. This provision shall survive the termination, expiration, or cancellation of the Agreement.

24. SCOPE AND OWNERSHIP OF WORK

All research data, reports, and every other work product of any kind or character arising from or relating to this Agreement shall become the property of SRTA and be delivered to SRTA upon completion of its authorized use pursuant to the Agreement. SRTA may use such work products for any purpose whatsoever. All works produced under this Agreement shall be deemed works produced by a contractor for hire, and all copyright with respect thereto shall vest in SRTA without payment of royalty or any other additional compensation.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, all proposals submitted in response to an RFP will become the exclusive property of the agency. At such time as the executive director recommends a proposal to the SRTA Board of Directors and such recommendation appears on the board agenda, all proposals submitted in response to the RFP shall become a matter of public record and shall be regarded as public records. **If there are any trade or proprietary secrets included by the consultant, the consultant may provide a different copy of the proposal that would be acceptable to release to the public. If an alternate document is not made available to SRTA by the consultant, then the original proposal, as submitted, will be**

released as requested. Proprietary information can include secret formulas, processes, and methods used in production. It can also include a company's business and marketing plans, salary structure, customer lists, contracts, and details of its computer systems. In some cases, the special knowledge and skills that an employee has learned on the job are considered to be a company's proprietary information.

25. SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Agreement or application thereof to any person or circumstance is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction or if it is found in contravention of any federal or state statute or regulation, the remaining provisions of this Agreement, or the application thereof, shall not be invalidated thereby and shall remain in full force and effect to the extent that the provisions of this Agreement are severable.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, SRTA and Consultant have executed this Agreement on the day and year of the last signature set forth below. By their signatures below, each signatory represents that he/she has the authority to execute this Agreement and to bind the party on whose behalf his/her execution is made.

SHASTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

Date: ___________________ ______________________________________

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director]

ECORP Consulting Inc.

Date: ___________________ By: ___________________________________

Principal/President

Tax I.D.#: _____________________________

Approved as to form:

JOHN KENNY
Counsel, Shasta Regional Transportation Agency

____

Attachment A
SCOPE OF WORK

Work Plan

Task 1 – Project Initiation and Management

ECORP's Project Manager and additional staff members will initiate the Project with a collaborative kick-off meeting to establish clear communication protocols, define roles and responsibilities, and confirm deliverables and timelines. We have assumed that we will receive copies of the latest version of the ShastaSIM travel model outputs (see Task 4), any previously prepared technical reports, and other Project information at this meeting, including electronic versions, to the extent possible.

A Project Management and Schedule Plan will be developed to guide task execution, ensure quality control, and maintain transparency through monthly progress reports and invoicing.

Task 1 Deliverables:

- Project Management and Schedule
- Project Data Request List

Task 2 – Notice of Preparation

ECORP will assist SRTA in preparing the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the SEIR for the 2027 RTP/SCS. Building on our role as the incumbent environmental consultant for SRTA's 2022 SEIR, we will ensure that the NOP reflects current regulatory conditions, emerging environmental issues, and areas requiring updated analysis.

ECORP will conduct a targeted review of the 2015 Programmatic EIR, 2018 SEIR, 2022 SEIR, adopted 2022 RTP/SCS, and draft assumptions for the 2027 RTP/SCS. This review will focus on identifying:

- New or more severe environmental impacts;
- Regulatory changes since the last SEIR; and
- Areas where additional or refined analysis is warranted.

In addition, ECORP will assist SRTA in planning and facilitating at least one public scoping meeting (see Task 5).

Prior to issuance of the NOP, ECORP and SRTA staff will meet via teleconference to solicit information regarding the scope and content of the SEIR. Discussion items will include the existing setting, baseline, and appropriate scope of analysis. Other topics will include Project alternatives and supporting documentation to be considered in the SEIR.

Following receipt of comments from SRTA staff on the Administrative Draft NOP, ECORP will prepare the final NOP and will file the NOP with the County Clerk and distribute it to the various public agencies whose approval and/or comments are required (Responsible Agencies), agencies with resources affected by the Project (Trustee Agencies) and interested parties and groups. Within the 30-day public review and comment period, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, and members of the public may provide comments about the SEIR contents and the Project in general. ECORP will review the NOP comments and prepare responses as part of the Draft SEIR. If specific comments are received from Responsible or Trustee Agencies or the public that request the SEIR evaluate additional issues, ECORP will consult with SRTA staff to determine how to address those comments in the SEIR.

Task 2 Deliverables:

- Electronic submittal of the Administrative Draft NOP in Microsoft Word for staff review
- 15 hard copies of the NOP for public distribution and one electronic copy to SRTA
- Master copy of the NOP in Microsoft Word and PDF for posting on SRTA's website
- Prepare the final NOP for circulation through the State Clearinghouse

Task 3 – Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)/Responses to Comments/Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations

An Administrative Draft SEIR will be submitted to the SRTA for review and comment prior to the preparation of the Draft SEIR. It is our approach that the majority of the documentation in the SEIR will be focused on those issues that would be primarily affected by the proposed operational changes and that were addressed in the 2015 Program EIR, 2018 SEIR, and 2022 Final SEIR: Project Description, Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Wildland Fire Hazards, Transportation and Circulation, and Tribal Resources. ECORP will prepare these sections of the SEIR, focusing on:

- New or more severe impacts not previously addressed in the 2015 Program EIR, 2018 SEIR, and 2022 SEIR
- Updated methodologies and thresholds consistent with CEQA Guidelines, SB 375, SB 743, and CARB guidance
- Integration of EMFAC2021 modeling with CARB adjustment factors to reflect recent Clean Air Act waiver rescissions and maintain consistency with prior RTP/SCS analyses

The Administrative Draft SEIR will be provided electronically to SRTA for review and comment. After receipt of one set of integrated comments on the Administrative Draft SEIR from SRTA, ECORP will revise the SEIR accordingly. ECORP is prepared to meet with SRTA to review the comments. The revised SEIR will be provided to SRTA in track-changes for ease of review and as a "clean" version. ECORP understands that SRTA may have additional comments as a result of ECORP's revisions, and such comments will be addressed to the satisfaction of SRTA. Prior to circulation of the Draft SEIR a screencheck copy of the document will be provided to SRTA for approval.

ECORP assumes that SRTA will submit the Notice of Completion (NOC) and Draft SEIR to the Shasta County Clerk's Office. ECORP also assumes that SRTA will mail the NOC to the mailing list, publish the NOC in local newspapers, and place public notice advertisements to announce the Draft SEIR public/agency workshop in local newspapers. Lastly, this scope of work also assumes that SRTA will be submitting the Draft SEIR to the State Clearinghouse, as required. These tasks are not included in the scope of work.

ECORP will prepare an Administrative Final SEIR, consisting of copies of comment letters received on the Draft EIR during the public review period, responses to these comments, any errata sheets required based on the comments and the Draft Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) (if needed). If needed, ECORP will prepare the MMRP (in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15097) to create a legally enforceable mechanism for the implementation of mitigation measures required in the Draft SEIR. This document will be included in the Administrative Final SEIR and will identify each mitigation measure to be carried out if the Project is implemented, the entity responsible for implementing each mitigation measure, and when it will be implemented. After SRTA comments on the Administrative Final SEIR and Draft MMRP, ECORP will prepare the Final SEIR and MMRP.

ECORP will prepare findings to allow for certification of the SEIR. The findings will summarize significant impacts, present mitigation measures, and identify the environmentally superior alternative. If necessary, a Statement of Overriding Considerations (SOOC) will be prepared, in accordance with Section 15093 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Task 3 Deliverables:

- One electronic copy of the Administrative SEIR for staff review
- Up to 30 hardcopies of the Draft SEIR for circulation
- Electronic copy of the Administrative Final SEIR in Microsoft Word for staff review
- One electronic copy of the Draft and Final CEQA Findings of Fact
- One electronic copy of the Draft and Final Statement of Overriding Considerations (if required)
- One electronic copy of the Draft and Final Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)
- One electronic copy of the Draft and Final Notice of Completion (NOC)
- Up to 30 hardcopies of the Final SEIR for circulation
- One electronic copy of the Draft and Final Board Resolution for SEIR certification and MMRP adoption
- Assistance with completing the CEQA checklist for the adopted RTP/SCS
- NOC, Summary Form, and Draft SEIR provided to State Clearinghouse

Task 4 – Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Estimations and EMFAC Modeling

ECORP will lead the air quality and GHG emissions modeling effort for the 2027 RTP/SCS SEIR, building on its extensive experience with CEQA-compliant environmental documentation and technical studies for regional transportation planning. ECORP previously prepared the air quality and GHG sections of SRTA's 2022 SEIR and is well-positioned to ensure consistency with prior methodologies while adapting to evolving regulatory conditions.

ECORP will work closely with SRTA's travel demand model consultant to obtain and interpret speed bin outputs from the ShastaSIM model. These outputs will serve as the foundation for emissions modeling using the CARB EMFAC model.

Regulatory Adaptation and EMFAC Versioning. Due to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) rescission of two of California's Clean Air Act waivers, specifically the Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Omnibus Low NOx (nitric oxides) and Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) regulations, the most recent EMFAC2025 model is not currently approved for use in federal transportation conformity analyses. In response, ECORP will utilize the federally approved EMFAC2021 model, supplemented with CARB's adjustment factors to reflect the latest regulatory changes. This approach ensures:

- Compliance with current federal and state guidance;
- Continuity with prior RTP/SCS modeling efforts; and
- The ability to conduct "apples-to-apples" comparisons across planning cycles.

GHG and Criteria Pollutant Estimations. Using the adjusted EMFAC2021 model, ECORP will estimate GHG emissions and criteria air pollutants for baseline and future year scenarios. These estimates will inform the SEIR's analysis of regional air quality impacts and support the evaluation of SB 375 GHG reduction strategies and SB 743-compliant VMT metrics. At a minimum, emissions from all vehicle categories under the following scenarios will be calculated:

- 2005 (baseline for SB 375 only)
- 2025 (analysis/target year for SB 375 reduction targets and base data year)
- 2035 No Project
- 2035 with RTP/SCS
- 2045 No Project
- 2045 with RTP/SCS

ECORP also has advanced data aggregation and visualization capabilities. Figures 1 and 2 below are examples of data ECORP has gathered from a regulatory model (EMFAC2021), aggregated, then presented as stacked bar-charts. These Figures are for informative purposes only and do not necessarily pertain to the Proposed Project Tasks.

Environmental Justice and Equity Considerations. ECORP will integrate environmental justice and equity overlays where applicable, into the air quality and GHG analysis, identifying potential disproportionate impacts on sensitive populations and disadvantaged communities.

Task 4 Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum documenting modeling methodology, assumptions, and results
- EMFAC-based emissions estimates for baseline and future RTP/SCS scenarios
- Input to SEIR chapters addressing air quality, GHG emissions, and climate change
- Coordination summaries and meeting notes with SRTA and modeling team
- Responses to agency comments and support for CARB SCS submittal requirements

Task 5 – Scoping Meeting, Public Meetings, and Teleconference/Board Meetings

ECORP will assist SRTA staff to conduct an online scoping meeting for the Project. ECORP's Project Manager and up to two additional staff members will attend. Additionally, ECORP will attend up to two SRTA Board of Director meetings and up to six CARB teleconferences. ECORP is prepared to prepare up to three technical memorandums addressing any questions posed by CARB staff. Notes will be taken during each meeting and maintained by ECORP for the Administrative Record and provided by email to the internal Project team. ECORP will make sure action items identified during coordination meetings are completed in a timely manner.

Task 5 Deliverables:

- Preparation of materials and lead discussion of an online Scoping Meeting.
- Preparation of materials and participation in up to two SRTA Board of Directors meetings.
- Preparation of materials and participation in up to six CARB teleconference meetings.
- Preparation of up to three technical memorandum addressing CARB questions on the adopted 2027 RTP/SCS

Task 6 – Off-Model Strategies, Policies, and Calculations

ECORP will support the identification, quantification, and documentation of off-model strategies that contribute to GHG and/or VMT reductions for the 2027 RTP/SCS. These strategies supplement the ShastaSIM travel demand model and are essential for capturing the full scope of SRTA's sustainability and mobility initiatives. Anticipated strategies may include the following:

- Active transportation infrastructure and programs
- Shared mobility services (e.g., carpooling, microtransit)
- Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption and charging infrastructure
- Parking management and pricing strategies
- Infill development and land use incentives
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures
- Telecommuting and remote work policies

ECORP will integrate off-model strategy impacts with the EMFAC2021-based emissions modeling framework, using CARB's adjustment factors to maintain consistency with federal requirements and prior RTP/SCS efforts. This approach ensures that off-model benefits are accurately reflected in the SEIR and CARB SCS submittals. The preliminary quantification strategies listed below are for proposal purposes only and can be changed as needed for Project implementation. The appropriate version of EMFAC will be utilized to identify emission factors and default model year mix. For activities which are not able to be accurately estimated utilizing ShastaSIM, the CARB 2018 Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA will be referenced in the document in addition to other suitable reference documents as needed. Any construction emissions connected to the proposed strategies can be quantified utilizing general information and defaults contained in the CalEEMod software. All potential sources will be utilized with approval of SRTA. All off-model calculations will be available in a custom Excel workbook to include all sources and equations. Off-model factors and results will be accordingly displayed with references in the technical memo tables and text. Comparisons to SB 375 2045 goals and any other applicable goals or regulations will be included as rows in the tables as needed.

ECORP can expand on what has been discussed in previous RTP/SCS technical memos and quantify emission reductions from new strategies provided by SRTA. Figure 3 illustrates ECORP's proposed general structure of comparisons utilizing "off-model" factors. Listed below are brief descriptions of possible quantification methods for the strategies included in Appendix C of the SRTA Request for Proposals.

Implement 2045 Long Range Transit Plan. Custom speed bins for key corridors can be used to represent more efficient trips. Quantification strategies for 'flexible fleets' can be seen below.

Implement GoShasta Regional Active Transportation Plan. Custom speed bins for active transportation lines can be used to represent more efficient truck traffic. The local feeder network can be evaluated for a reduction in idling and low speed travel.

Flexible Fleets. Demand and vehicle distribution profiles will be developed with and without the Flexible Fleets program. Default model year distributions will be utilized to develop emission factors and the emissions will be calculated accordingly.

Zero-emission vehicles. Vehicle distribution profiles will be developed with and without the Zero-emission incentives applied. Default model year distributions will be utilized to develop emission factors and the emissions will be calculated accordingly. Hydrogen filling infrastructure development will be qualitatively discussed using current CARB and industry-based estimates.

Accessible Activity Centers. VMT maps of representative activity centers can be used to estimate vehicle trips. Population numbers per activity center can be used to tie the representative example to current Shasta County emissions.

Rural mobility. Representative VMT maps can be developed to account for any updated land uses or facilities/job sites associated with the Rural Mobility Strategy. Related studies can be used to estimate "off-model" adjustment factors for any other mitigations associated with this plan.

Managed corridors. Related studies can be utilized from CARB and other sources that estimate the effectiveness of long-term plans for "off-model" factor development.

Vehicle Miles Traveled Mitigation Bank. Studies from similar programs as well as potentially from CARB's Cap and Trade program can be used to estimate the effectiveness of the VMT credit pool.

Targeted disadvantaged mobility. Studies on supplemented transit programs can be used to estimate the VMT reduction. Updates can be made to model year distributions to represent a reduction in lower cost (i.e., older cars) at a higher proportion than newer vehicles.

Commute Trip Reduction Programs. Studies on similar incentive programs from CARBs VMT mitigation studies bank can be used to estimate the effectiveness of these programs. The reduction in VMT and elimination of older vehicles can be combined for a representative "off-model" adjustment factor.

Task 6 Deliverables:

- Detailed analysis of a minimum of seven "off-model" strategies that would help the region meet GHG reduction targets.
- Technical memo(s) summarizing potential GHG and/or VMT reductions from off-model strategies.
- Documentation of assumptions, data sources, and calculation methodologies.
- Coordination with SRTA staff and modeling team to ensure consistency and transparency.

Task 7 – Complete SCS Submittal and Technical Responses

ECORP will use outputs from ShastaSIM, EMFAC2021 (with CARB adjustment factors), Census data, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) datasets, and other relevant sources to complete CARB's SCS Submittal Package Tables. ECORP will coordinate closely with SRTA staff and the travel demand modeling consultant to ensure accuracy and alignment with CARB's expectations.

ECORP will prepare a comprehensive technical memorandum that documents the modeling assumptions and methodologies, data sources and processing steps, and metadata for each table and dataset based on the CARB SCS Submittal Package Summary Guide.

Optional Support for Unanticipated Needs. ECORP is prepared to support SRTA with additional technical services should regulatory conditions change or legal defensibility issues arise. This may include the following:

- Adaptation to alternative air quality models or regulatory frameworks
- Legal defensibility review and case law tracking
- Focused technical studies (e.g., induced travel, climate adaptation overlays, environmental justice sensitivity testing)
- Preparation of expert declarations or litigation support materials

Task 7 Deliverables:

- Completed CARB Submittal Package Table
- Technical memo providing meta-data for the CARB Submittal Package Table
- Supplemental technical responses to CARB inquiries, as needed

Schedule

Table 1 shows an estimated schedule for ECORP to prepare the scope of work. This estimated schedule assumes that the Notice to Proceed is issued on March 1, 2026. This estimate is based on the SRTA Board of Directors' 2025 schedule. ECORP acknowledges that CARB's confirmation that the RTP/SCS meets the region's GHG reduction targets is not a fast process and that the timeline will likely extend beyond this schedule as a result.

Table 1 – Schedule

Tasks	Time Frame for Completion
Kick-off Meeting with SRTA	March 2, 2026
Prepare Administrative Draft NOP	March 3 – March 16, 2026
SRTA Review Administrative Draft NOP	March 17 – March 31, 2026
Revise NOP	April 1 – 8, 2026
SRTA Review of ECORP Edits	April 9 – 16, 2026
Publish NOP	April 17, 2026
Public Review Period for NOP	April 20 – May 20, 2026
Prepare Administrative Draft SEIR	May 21, 2026 – October 2, 2026
SRTA Review Administrative Draft SEIR	October 5 – November 2, 2026
Revise Administrative Draft SEIR	November 3 – 20, 2026
Prepare Notice of Completion	November 23 - 26, 2026
Prepare Administrative Final SEIR	January 11 – February 1, 2027
SRTA Review Administrative Final SEIR	February 2 – 12, 2027
Revise Administrative Final SEIR	February 15 – 22, 2027
Prepare Administrative Findings	February 23 – March 2, 2027
SRTA Review Administrative Findings	March 3 – 10, 2027
Revise Administrative Findings	March 11 – 15, 2027

Table 2 – Key Personnel Availability

Key Personnel – Name and Role	Availability (% of hours)
Seth Myers – Project Manager/Air Quality Specialist	50–80%
David Atwater – Senior Environmental Planner	30-60%
Michael Slavick – Principal Air Quality and Climate Change Specialist	30-60%
Rosemary Worden – Senior Emissions Analyst.	25-50%
Sophia Winter – Associate Environmental Planner	25-50%
*Notes: *At project-critical times, all necessary personnel will be available for 100 percent of their time to ensure that deadlines are met*.	

Cost Proposal, SRTA Solicitation Number: S-00040

Labor			**Grand Total (All Tasks)**		Project Initiation and Management Task/Phase 1		Notice of Preparation Task/Phase 2		Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)/Responses to Comments/Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations Task/Phase 3		Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Estimations and EMFAC Modeling Task/Phase 4		Scoping Meeting, Public Meetings, and Teleconference/Board Meetings Task/Phase 5		Off-Model Strategies, Policies, and Calculations Task/Phase 6		Complete SCS Submittal and Technical Responses Task/Phase 7	
Seth Myers	Project Manager/Air Quality Specialist	$ 215.00	**64**	**$ 13,760.00**	22	$ 4,730.00	4	$ 860.00	24	$ 5,160.00	4	$ 860.00	8	$ 1,720.00	0	$ -	2	$ 430.00
David Atwater	Senior Environmental Planner	$ 200.00	**75**	**$ 15,000.00**	26	$ 5,200.00	8	$ 1,600.00	35	$ 7,000.00	0	$ -	6	$ 1,200.00	0	$ -	0	$ -
Michael Slavick	Principal Air Quality and Climate Change Specialist	$ 255.00	**171**	**$ 43,605.00**	2	$ 510.00	0	$ -	0	$ -	62	$ 15,810.00	18	$ 4,590.00	55	$ 14,025.00	34	$ 8,670.00
Rosey Worden	Senior Emissions Analyst	$ 150.00	**130**	**$ 19,500.00**	0	$ -	20	$ 3,000.00	110	$ 16,500.00	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -
Sophia Winter	Associate Environmental Planner	$ 150.00	**110**	**$ 16,500.00**	0	$ -	0	$ -	110	$ 16,500.00	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -
Devin Keogh	Publications	$ 175.00	**34**	**$ 5,950.00**	0	$ -	2	$ 350.00	32	$ 5,600.00	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -
Total Labor			**584**	**$ 114,315.00**	**50**	**$ 10,440.00**	**34**	**$ 5,810.00**	**311**	**$ 50,760.00**	**66**	**$ 16,670.00**	**32**	**$ 7,510.00**	**55**	**$ 14,025.00**	**36**	**$ 9,100.00**
Other Costs				**Costs**		Costs		Costs		Costs		Costs		Costs		Costs		Costs
Unit	Copy: Reproduction (Blk/Wht)		**12000**	**$ 1,800.00**	0	$ -	0	$ -	12000	$ 1,800.00	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -
ODCs/reimbursables Total			**12000**	**$ 1,800.00**	0	$ -	0	$ -	12000	$ 1,800.00	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -	0	$ -
Mark-up on ODCs/reimbursables Total		14.0%		**$ 252.00**		$ -		$ -		$ 252.00		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -
Total for ODCs/reimbursables Total				**$ 2,052.00**		$ -		$ -		$ 2,052.00		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -
Total Other Costs				**$ 2,052.00**		$ -		$ -		$ 2,052.00		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -
Total Estimate				**$ 116,367.00**		**$ 10,440.00**		**$ 5,810.00**		**$ 52,812.00**		**$ 16,670.00**		**$ 7,510.00**		**$ 14,025.00**		**$ 9,100.00**

ECORP Consulting, Inc.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

FEE SCHEDULE FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

ECORP Consulting, Inc. – 2025 Rates[1]

Principal V	$420
Principal IV	$350
Principal III	$300
Principal II	$255
Principal I	$240
Professional XI	$255
Professional X	$235
Professional IX	$215
Professional VIII	$200
Professional VII	$185
Professional VI	$175
Professional V	$165
Professional IV	$150
Professional III	$140
Professional II	$130
Professional I	$120
Technician IV	$115
Technician III	$110
Technician II	$100
Technician I	$90
Project Admin III	$130
Project Admin II	$110
Project Admin I	$100

[1]Technical and Professional classifications include biologists, regulatory permitting specialists, archaeologists, architectural historians, paleontologists, air quality/greenhouse gas specialists, noise specialists, planners, CEQA/NEPA specialists, UAS pilots, and other technical professionals.

Expense Reimbursement/Other:

1. Computers, facsimile, and telephone are included in the billing rates, and there is no additional charge.
2. Reproduction, equipment and other direct expenses are reimbursed at cost plus a 14% administrative handling charge (excluding mileage).
3. The hourly rates for Subconsultants will be billed at the hourly rate indicated, plus a 12% administrative handling charge.
4. Mileage will be billed at the current IRS rate, adjusted annually.
5. Per Diem, depending upon location, may be charged where overnight stays are required.
6. Expert Witness Testimony, including Depositions, is billed at time and a half.
7. Non-standard invoicing will be billed at the hourly rates for support personnel.
8. Hourly rates will escalate at a rate of 3% per annum.

Attachment C

- Inclusion of the following clause is required, verbatim, in each CPG-assisted contract:

    - The contractor or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of United States Department of Transportation-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy, as recipient deems appropriate.

- Inclusion of contractual language specifying prompt payment clauses are required in the foregoing provisions. These prompt payment clauses benefit all subcontractors equally.

    Prompt Progress Payment to Subcontractors—A prime contractor or subcontractor shall pay to any subcontractor not later than 10-days of receipt of each progress payment, in accordance with the provision in Section 7108.5 of the California Business and Professions Code concerning prompt payment to subcontractors. The 10-day rule is applicable unless a longer period is agreed to in writing. Any delay or postponement of payment over 30-days may take place only for good cause and with the agency's prior written approval. Any violation of Section 7108.5 shall subject the violating contractor or subcontractor to the penalties, sanctions, and other remedies of that Section. This requirement shall not be construed to limit or impair any contractual, administrative, or judicial remedies, otherwise available to the contractor or subcontractor in the event of a dispute involving late payment or nonpayment by the contractor, deficient subcontractor performance, and/or noncompliance by a subcontractor.

    - **Prompt Payment of Withheld Funds to Subcontractors**—The MPO, RTPA or local government entity shall include either (1), (2), or (3) of the following provisions in their CPG-assisted contracts to ensure prompt and full payment of retainage (withheld funds) to subcontractors in compliance with 49 CFR 26.29.

        1) No retainage will be held by the agency from progress payments due to the prime contractor. Prime contractors and subcontractors are prohibited from holding retainage from subcontractors. Any delay or postponement of payment may take place only for good cause and with the agency's prior written approval. Any violation of these provisions shall subject the violating contractor or subcontractor to the penalties, sanctions, and other remedies specified in Section 7108.5 of the California Business and Professions Code. This requirement shall not be construed to limit or impair any contractual, administrative, or judicial remedies, otherwise available to the contractor or subcontractor in the event of a dispute involving late payment or nonpayment by the contractor, deficient subcontractor performance, and/or noncompliance by a subcontractor.

2) No retainage will be held by the agency from progress payments due the prime contractor. Any retainage kept by the prime contractor or by a subcontractor must be paid in full to the earning subcontractor in 30-days after the subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed. Any delay or postponement of payment may take place only for good cause and with the agency's prior written approval. Any violation of these provisions shall subject the violating contractor or subcontractor to the penalties, sanctions, and remedies specified in Section 7108.5 of the California Business and Professions Code. This requirement shall not be construed to limit or impair any contractual, administrative, or judicial remedies, otherwise available to the contractor or subcontractor in the event of a dispute involving late payment or nonpayment by the contractor, deficient subcontractor performance, and/or noncompliance by a subcontractor.

3) The agency shall hold retainage from the prime contractor and shall make prompt and regular incremental acceptances of portions, as determined by the agency of the contract work and pay retainage to the prime contractor based on these acceptances. The prime contractor or subcontractor shall return all monies withheld in retention from all subcontractors within 30-days after receiving payment for work satisfactorily completed and accepted including incremental acceptances of portions of the contract work by the agency. Any delay or postponement of payment may take place only for good cause and with the agency's prior written approval. Any violation of these provisions shall subject the violating prime contractor to the penalties, sanctions, and other remedies specified in Section 7108.5 of the California Business and Professions Code. This requirement shall not be construed to limit or impair any contractual, administrative, or judicial remedies, otherwise available to the contractor or subcontractor in the event of: a dispute involving late payment or nonpayment by the contractor; deficient subcontractor performance; and/or noncompliance by a subcontractor.