

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	February 28, 2017
SUBJECT:	Authorize the Executive Director to Issue a Request for Qualifications for On-Call Environmental Support Services
AGENDA ITEM:	6-10
STAFF CONTACT:	Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Senior Transportation Planner

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors authorize the executive director to issue a request for qualifications (RFQ) for a three-year on-call environmental support services contract, not to exceed \$75,000.

DISCUSSION:

Periodically, the agency undertakes projects that require environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). SRTA typically hires consultants to perform environmental review on a project-by-project basis, such as when updating the agency's Regional Transportation Plan. However, this process does not allow SRTA to consult and receive advice when new environmental regulations are passed or major court cases are decided that may affect agency projects. Additionally, environmental analysis is sometimes needed to provide support data for grant applications.

Near-term needs for environmental support services include the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP is the agency's long-range (20-year) transportation plan which is updated every four years and was most recently updated in June 2015. The 2018 RTP will include a revised greenhouse gas emissions reduction target, updated assumptions to meet the new target, and various minor updates. It's unknown what level of environmental review is needed, however, staff has budgeted up to \$50,000 for an addendum to the 2015 RTP environmental impact report (EIR) or a supplemental EIR.

A recommendation for contract award is anticipated for the April 25, 2017, board of directors meeting.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may direct staff to issue a request for proposals for only the 2018 RTP EIR.

FINANCING:

The three-year contract would not exceed \$75,000. Funding would come from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Planning Funds, Planning Programming & Monitoring (PPM) funds or other eligible fund sources. Costs for the 2018 RTP environmental document is estimated up to \$50,000, with \$15,000 budgeted in fiscal year 2016/17 and the remaining \$35,000 budgeted in the draft FY 2017/18 Overall Work Program.


for Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director