

Date: April 4, 2007Committee Meeting Date: April 19, 2007Board Meeting Date: May 3, 2007**BOARD MEMORANDUM**ACTION   X   DISCUSSION        INFO       

**TO:** Administration and Finance Committee  
 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
 Board of Directors

**THROUGH:** Michael T. Burns  
 General Manager

**FROM:** Carolyn M. Gonot  
 Chief Development Officer

**SUBJECT:** Contract with Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Phase of the Charcot Avenue Extension Project

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas (PBQ&D) for the preliminary engineering and environmental phase of the Charcot Avenue Extension Project, for a total contract value not to exceed of \$600,000.

**BACKGROUND:**

The project consists of extending existing Charcot Avenue over I-880 and connecting with Old Oakland Road in the City of San Jose. Charcot Avenue currently terminates west of I-880 north of the Brokaw Road Interchange. The City of San Jose has reserved the right-of-way to accommodate the extension on the east side of I-880.

The extension of Charcot Avenue to Old Oakland Road will provide a much needed additional connection between the North San Jose and Berryessa areas. The project will provide a new local route opportunity for vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian traffic to cross I-880 without using the congested Brokaw Road Interchange. The overcrossing will have no connection to I-880 and thus will provide a much safer crossing of I-880 for pedestrians and bicycles without on and off ramp conflicts. This Project is included among the Local Streets and County Roads Projects in the Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2030. The estimated total cost of the project is \$36 million.

The City of San Jose has requested that VTA manage the project development phase of this project. The San Jose City Council is scheduled to approve a cooperative agreement between VTA and City to provide funding for the project on April 24, 2007.

**DISCUSSION:**

VTA staff recommends negotiating and executing a contract with PBQ&D to begin the preliminary engineering and environmental phase of the project. PBQ&D is included on the approved VTA Highway Program list of planning and engineering consultants selected through a competitive Request For Proposal (RFP) conducted in 2005. VTA staff is recommending PBQ&D for this project based on their experience with similar projects of this type and strength of the sub-consultant team established by PBQ&D for this project.

The recommended contract will be for a not to exceed total value of \$600,000. The contract scope of services includes the following elements: planning and preliminary investigations, geometric approval drawings, environmental studies including completion of a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental document and a combined Project Study Report/Project Report (PSR/PR). The cost-plus-fixed-fee contract will have a term of two years, provide approximately 4,500 hours of service. The total fixed fee will be dependent upon the final negotiated contract amount and will not exceed \$39,000.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The VTA Board could choose not to move forward with this contract at this time. Another alternative could be for the City of San Jose to perform these services or issue their own contract for the services and assume project management responsibilities.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funding for the recommended contract is provided through an agreement between VTA and City of San Jose which provides all of the funding for the contract and VTA staff support services.

**SBE PARTICIPATION:**

A Small Business Enterprise (SBE) goal of 15% has been established for this contract. Contractor has committed to 15% SBE participation on this contract.

Prepared by: David Loftus, Project Manager

Reviewed by: John Ristow, Deputy Director, Programming and Project Development

**Contractor Information:**

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Principal: Aileen Read (415 243-4600)