

**CITY OF TEMECULA  
AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** City Manager/City Council

**FROM:** Patrick Thomas, Director of Public Works/City Engineer

**DATE:** September 13, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Approve Cooperative Agreement Between Riverside County Transportation Commission and City of Temecula Regarding French Valley Parkway Project Incorporation of I-15 Smart Freeway Project Elements

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**PREPARED BY:** Patrick Thomas, Director of Public Works/City Engineer

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the City Council approve a cooperative agreement between the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and City of Temecula regarding incorporation of I-15 Smart Freeway Project elements into the City's I-15/French Valley Parkway, Phase II Project; and funding for the projects.

**BACKGROUND:** RCTC, in partnership with Caltrans, is preparing plans for the I-15 Smart Freeway pilot project on northbound Interstate 15 from the San Diego/Riverside County Line to the I-15/I-215 Interchange in Murrieta. The Smart Freeway Project is intended to help improve safety and maintain a steady flow of traffic for this eight-mile section of roadway that has frequent congestion. Sensors and other technology will track traffic on northbound I-15 while adjusting ramp metering at I-15 and Temecula Parkway, Rancho California Road, and Winchester Road. The metering at the three interchanges will work as a system for the corridor and provide real-time traffic flow information to motorists. Once funding and environmental approvals are secured, construction could begin in early 2023.

The City is preparing plans for the I-15/French Valley Parkway, Phase II project and intends to solicit construction bids in September and start construction in December, 2022. Some elements of the Smart Freeway Project will need to be incorporated into the I-15/French Valley Parkway, Phase II project, such as shifting the sensors placed on the Winchester Road on-ramp to the northbound I-15 collector-distributor road.

According to the proposed Cooperative Agreement, the Smart Freeway Project elements will be added to the I-15/French Valley Parkway, Phase II project by issuance of a Contract Change Order following contract award. The cost of the change order will be added to the total cost of the project. If the I-15/French Valley Parkway, Phase II project bids come in higher than the City's allocated funding amounts identified in the current FTIP for the project, it is anticipated that the City will

seek assistance from RCTC to fund the shortfall, including the cost of the change order for the Smart Freeway Project elements.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Funding for incorporation of the Smart Freeway Project elements is expected to be available in the CIP budget for the I-15/French Valley Parkway, Phase II project. Depending on construction bids for this project, it may be necessary to seek funding assistance from RCTC for any funding shortfall, including cost of the Smart Freeway Project elements.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Cooperative Agreement