

Bay Area Toll Authority

Oversight Committee

April 12, 2023

Agenda Item 4b

Contract – Community Engagement during Design Phase of the West Oakland Link Project: West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (\$250,000)

Subject:

Request for Committee approval to enter into a contract with West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP) in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to facilitate engagement and participation from the West Oakland community during the design phase of the West Oakland Link Project.

Background:

The West Oakland Link Project (Project) would construct a new bicycle/pedestrian connection between West Oakland and the bike path leading to the East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge (Bay Bridge) in Oakland. The Project, which is part of the Bay Trail, would connect West Oakland to existing segments of the regional San Francisco Bay Trail and provide safer access to the Bay Bridge East Span Path and the Class I trail along Maritime Street to the Port of Oakland.

The final design phase, also called Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) phase, is expected to start this May. BATA intends to partner with WOEIP, a prominent community-based organization in West Oakland to lead and conduct the engagement activities in the neighborhood. BATA will contract with WOEIP to compensate them for their work organizing meetings and engaging the West Oakland community to develop ideas and priorities to inform the final design of the Project around environmental justice, community ownership, placemaking, and health and safety.

WOEIP is a resident-led, community-based environmental justice organization dedicated to achieving healthy homes, healthy jobs, and healthy neighborhoods for all who live, work, learn and play in West Oakland. BATA has chosen to contract with WOEIP on a sole source basis because they have experience engaging the West Oakland community, the organizational capacity to lead outreach, and a history of engaging on the West Oakland Link. Since 2020, WOEIP has raised concerns about air pollution exposure to users of the West Oakland Link. In

2022, the Project team worked with WOEIP to host a community meeting focused on the Bay Skyway Phase 1 (which includes the West Oakland Link) and air pollution exposure. Since this meeting, the Project team and WOEIP have taken a collaborative approach in thinking about air pollution and environmental justice as it relates to the Project, a partnership that would be beneficial to carry over into community engagement for the detailed design of the West Oakland Link.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Staff recommends the Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a contract with WOEIP in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to facilitate engagement and participation from the West Oakland community during the design phase of the Project.

Attachments:

- None



Andrew B. Fremier

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed Contract

Work Item No.: 1251

Consultant: West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP)
Oakland, CA

Work Project Title: West Oakland Link

Purpose of Project: The West Oakland Link Project would construct a new bicycle/pedestrian connection between West Oakland and the bike path leading to the East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge (Bay Bridge) in Oakland.

Brief Scope of Work: Organize meetings, engage the West Oakland community, and partner with the Project team to develop ideas and priorities to inform the final design of the West Oakland Link.

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$250,000

Funding Source: Toll Bridge Rehabilitation Program Funds

Fiscal Impact: Funds are included in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 BATA Toll Bridge Program Operating and Capital Budgets.

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with WOEIP for community engagement for the West Oakland Link Project as described above and in the BATA Oversight Committee Summary Sheet dated April 12, 2023 and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside \$250,000 for such contract.

Bay Area Toll Authority:

Federal Glover, Chair

Approved: April 12, 2023