

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission**  
**Operations Committee**

**April 14, 2023**

**Agenda Item 4h**

**Cooperative Agreement: Integrated Team for Design Phase of the State Route 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) (\$25,500,000)**

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**Subject:**

Request for approval of a cooperative agreement between Caltrans and MTC to work as an integrated team, in the amount of \$25,500,000, to advance the State Route 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project into the design phase, including right-of-way support and capital, and project control services.

**Background:**

State Route 37 (SR 37) extends from US Highway 101 (US 101) in Novato, Marin County to Interstate 80 (I-80) in Vallejo, Solano County. It is an essential regional connection linking the north, east, and west San Francisco Bay sub-regions. The corridor faces several challenges, including traffic congestion, seasonal flooding, environmentally sensitive ecology, and sea level rise.

MTC is working in partnership with Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA), Solano Transportation Authority (STA), Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA), Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) to deliver the SR 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project. The environmental review process was completed in February 2023 and the project is ready to advance into the design phase, including right-of-way support and capital, and project control services.

An integrated team approach is proposed between MTC and Caltrans to proceed with the design phase in an expedited and efficient manner, which will be formalized through the establishment of a cooperative agreement. The cooperative agreement will identify both MTC and Caltrans as co-sponsors of the project, while Caltrans will be the implementing agency; other specific roles will be negotiated between both agencies. Funding for the design phase will be comprised from the following sources for a total of twenty-five million five hundred thousand dollars: 1)

seventeen million dollars of federal funds from Caltrans; 2) three million dollars of Senate Bill 170 state funds from SCTA; 3) four million five hundred thousand dollars of Regional Measure 3 funds administered between SCTA and MTC; and 4) one million dollars of One Bay Area Grant 3 federal funds from MTC. Additionally, MTC and SCTA will enter into a funding agreement to allow for the transfer of funding from SCTA to MTC to proceed with the project's design phase.

In January 2023, the Operations Committee approved a \$20 million cooperative agreement with Caltrans to advance the design phase of the project, working with MTC as an integrated team. As the agreement has not been executed, this request supersedes the previously approved item, in order to account for the additional work and funding.

**Issues:**


None identified.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the Operations Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans in an amount of \$25,500,000 to work as an integrated team, to advance the State Route 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project into design phase, which also includes right-of-way support and capital, and project control services.

**Attachments:**

- Request for Committee Approval - Summary of Proposed Cooperative Agreement

  
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Andrew B. Fremier

## Request for Committee Approval

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### Summary of Proposed Cooperative Agreement

Work Item No.: 1237, 2664

Agency: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)  
Sacramento, California

Work Project Title: State Route 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project

Purpose of Project: To improve traffic flow and peak travel times, increase vehicle occupancy.

Brief Scope of Work: Provide final design services, which includes right-of-way support and capital, and project control services

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$25,500,000

Funding Source: \$17,000,000 (Federal funds from Caltrans)  
\$3,000,000 (State funds from Senate Bill 170 to be received by MTC from Sonoma County Transportation Authority)  
\$4,500,000 (Regional Measure 3)  
\$1,000,000 (OBAG 3)

Fiscal Impact: No immediate fiscal impact until agreement is executed. Funds are subject to agency budgetary approval process.

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Transportation for the purposes described above and in the Operations Committee Summary Sheet dated April 14, 2023, subject to budgetary approval.

Operations Committee:

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David Rabbitt, Chair

Approved: April 14, 2023