



MEMORANDUM

TO: CITY COUNCIL

**FROM: TERESA MCCLISH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
BILL ROBESON, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

BY: ROBIN DICKERSON, CITY ENGINEER

**SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A PROJECT UPDATE AND APPROPRIATION OF
A BUDGET SUPPLEMENT FOR THE SYSTEMIC SAFETY ANALYSIS
REPORT (SSAR)**

DATE: MAY 14, 2019

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

The budget allocation will allow GHD to begin work on the SSAR.

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:

The City was successful in securing \$67,500 of state funds for preliminary engineering work for the preparation of the Systemic Safety Analysis Report (SSAR). The cost of the scope of services is \$86,404.

SSARP Funding secured	\$67,500
SLOCOG Transportation Safety Program secured	\$10,000
Additional funds from CD Contractual Services	<u>\$ 8,904</u>
Total	\$86,404

The additional \$8,904 will be allocated from the Community Development Contractual Services Account (010-4301-5303).

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the City Council appropriate \$8,904 from the Community Development Contractual Services account for the scope of services.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Arroyo Grande has successfully competed for funding from the Caltrans Systemic Safety Analysis Report Program (SSARP). The SSARP is a proactive safety approach that focuses on evaluating an entire roadway network using a defined set of criteria. It looks at crash history on an aggregate basis to identify high-risk roadway characteristics, rather than looking at high-collision concentration locations through site analysis. The goal of the SSARP is to help local agencies identify safety projects to submit for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding consideration. It is anticipated

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that documented results from the SSAR will identify high benefit-cost ratio safety projects that have been found in the past to be strong HSIP candidates.

There are **four basic objectives** of the SSAR Program:

- 1) Identifying Focus Crash Types and Risk Factors;
- 2) Screening and Prioritizing Candidate Locations;
- 3) Selecting Potential Low-Cost Countermeasures; and
- 4) Prioritizing Projects per Benefit-Cost Ratios using the Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS) Calculation Tool

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

On July 24, 2018, the Council approved a program supplement agreement for the SSARP. Staff elected to use on-call services for this project and sought three proposals from the on-call list. GHD provided the only valid proposal in the timeline needed to complete this work. GHD has expertise in this area, and is well qualified for this type of project.

The City of Arroyo Grande is not experiencing high collision concentrations at specific locations. It is the City's intent that the SSAR consultant will perform an analysis of the entire roadway system to identify high-risk roadway characteristics as opposed to analyzing high collision sites. The City will supply crash data obtained and cataloged by its Police Department, and mapped by its engineering staff. It is the City's goal to identify infrastructure improvement countermeasures that mitigate the City's primary crash type trends which include rear ends, sideswipes, pedestrian/bicycle and broadsides.

The City's SSAR will address up to **three Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Challenge Areas** including:

- 1) Intersection, Interchanges and Other Roadway Access
- 2) Pedestrians
- 3) Bicycling

ALTERNATIVES:

The following alternatives are provided for the Council's consideration:

1. Appropriate \$8,904 from Community Development Contractual Services Account for the SSAR;
2. Do not appropriate \$8,904 from Community Development Contractual Services Account for the SSAR; or
3. Provide direction to staff.

ADVANTAGES:

Supplementing the grant funding to cover the cost of the study will allow the City to identify projects with the required cost to benefit ratio needed to secure the safety improvement funding. Procuring a consultant team that specializes in this type of work will ensure the project progresses through the development process smoothly.

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DISADVANTAGES:

The preparation of this report will require staff time and City funds. If Preliminary Engineering work is not completed in a timely manner, it is possible that the grant funding could be deobligated by Caltrans. Not preparing this report will significantly impact the City's financial circumstances in securing future funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The SSAR does not require environmental review. In compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) the project is categorically exempt per section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines. Each project completed will evaluate environmental impacts on a project-by-project basis. The individual projects developed from the SSAR will include the necessary environmental reviews and studies.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:

The Agenda was posted at City Hall and on the City's website in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2. At the time of report publication, no comments have been received.

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