

22) **Cooperative Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation for the I-15 Nichols Road Interchange**

Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute a Cooperative Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the I-15 Nichols Road Interchange Improvement Project in such final form as approved by the City Attorney.



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Jason Simpson, City Manager

Prepared by: Remon Habib, City Engineer

Date: June 24, 2025

Subject: Cooperative Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation for the I-15 Nichols Road Interchange

Recommendation

Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute a Cooperative Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the I-15 Nichols Road Interchange Improvement Project in such final form as approved by the City Attorney.

Background

The Interstate 15 Nichols Road Interchange Improvement Project initiated in 2023, where the Project Initiation Document – Project Study Report was completed in 2025. The Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase is expected to initiate in June 2025, where an executed Cooperative Agreement is required prior to the start of the next phase.

Discussion

The Cooperative Agreement establishes the project components, which the City will be responsible for as the Implementing Agency. The City will be responsible to deliver the Project Approval & Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase, which is the development of the Final Project Report and Final Environmental Document; study of up to three (3) build alternatives and one (1) no build alternative, completion of the Geometric Approval Drawings and Design Standard Decision Document; preparation of the Traffic Operations Analysis Report, Hydraulic/Hydrology Studies, and Geotechnical Studies; survey and mapping; stakeholder and community outreach; and environmental studies, such as noise, air, water quality, biology. Caltrans will be the lead agency for CEQA and NEPA.

The City is also responsible for the (1) final Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E), which includes the development of the plans, specifications, and estimate; obtaining resource agency permits; and advertisement/award of the construction contract; and (2) Right of Way, which includes coordination with utility owners, pre-construction of monument preservation, acquisition of right of way, and post construction right of way work.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact to executing this agreement. Project has been budgeted in the CIP program for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Cooperative Agreement

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT COVER SHEET

Work Description

TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC OPERATIONS BY IMPROVEMENTS OF THE NICHOLS ROAD INTERCHANGE AND CORRECTION OF MERGING/DIVERGING FREEWAY AND RAMP MOVEMENTS. THIS PROJECT ALSO REDUCES EXISTING AND FUTURE CONGESTION BY WIDENING NICHOLS ROAD TO SIX LANES AND IMPROVING INTERSECTION AT COLLIER AVENUE AND NICHOLS ROAD

Contact Information

The information provided below indicates the primary contact information for each PARTY to this AGREEMENT. PARTIES will notify each other in writing of any personnel or location changes. Contact information changes do not require an amendment to this AGREEMENT.

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COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

This AGREEMENT, executed on and effective from _____, is between the State of California, acting through its Department of Transportation, referred to as CALTRANS, and:

City of Lake Elsinore, a body politic and municipal corporation or chartered city of the State of California, referred to hereinafter as City.

An individual signatory agency in this AGREEMENT is referred to as a PARTY. Collectively, the signatory agencies in this AGREEMENT are referred to as PARTIES.

RECITALS

1. PARTIES are authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement for improvements to the State Highway System (SHS) per the California Streets and Highways Code, Sections 114 and 130.
2. For the purpose of this AGREEMENT, *to improve traffic operations by improvements of the Nichols Road interchange and correction of merging/diverging freeway and ramp movements. This project also reduces existing and future congestion by widening Nichols Road to six lanes and improving intersection at Collier Avenue and Nichols Road*, will be referred to hereinafter as PROJECT. The PROJECT scope of work is defined in the project initiation and approval documents.
3. All obligations and responsibilities assigned in this AGREEMENT to complete the following PROJECT COMPONENTS will be referred to hereinafter as WORK:
 - PROJECT APPROVAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (PA&ED)
 - PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ESTIMATE (PS&E)
 - RIGHT-OF-WAY (R/W)

Each PROJECT COMPONENT is defined in the CALTRANS Workplan Standards Guide as a distinct group of activities/products in the project planning and development process.

4. The term AGREEMENT, as used herein, includes this document and any attachments, exhibits, and amendments.

This AGREEMENT is separate from and does not modify or replace any other cooperative agreement or memorandum of understanding between the PARTIES regarding the PROJECT.

PARTIES intend this AGREEMENT to be their final expression that supersedes any oral understanding or writings pertaining to the WORK. The requirements of this AGREEMENT will preside over any conflicting requirements in any documents that are made an express part of this AGREEMENT.

If any provisions in this AGREEMENT are found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be, or are in fact, illegal, inoperative, or unenforceable, those provisions do not render any or all other AGREEMENT provisions invalid, inoperative, or unenforceable, and those provisions will be automatically severed from this AGREEMENT.

Except as otherwise provided in the AGREEMENT, PARTIES will execute a written amendment if there are any changes to the terms of this AGREEMENT.

PARTIES agree to sign a CLOSURE STATEMENT to terminate this AGREEMENT. However, all indemnification, document retention, audit, claims, environmental commitment, legal challenge, maintenance and ownership articles will remain in effect until terminated or modified in writing by mutual agreement or expire by the statute of limitations.

5. The following work associated with this PROJECT has been completed or is in progress:
 - City completed the Project Initiation Document (PID) on January 6, 2025.
6. In this AGREEMENT capitalized words represent defined terms, initialisms, or acronyms.
7. PARTIES hereby set forth the terms, covenants, and conditions of this AGREEMENT.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Sponsorship

8. A SPONSOR is responsible for establishing the scope of the PROJECT and securing the financial resources to fund the WORK. A SPONSOR is responsible for securing additional funds when necessary or implementing PROJECT changes to ensure the WORK can be completed with the funds committed in this AGREEMENT.

PROJECT changes, as described in the CALTRANS Project Development Procedures Manual, will be approved by CALTRANS as the owner/operator of the State Highway System.

9. City is the SPONSOR for the WORK in this AGREEMENT.

Implementing Agency

10. The IMPLEMENTING AGENCY is the PARTY responsible for managing the scope, cost, schedule, and quality of the work activities and products of a PROJECT COMPONENT.

- City is the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) IMPLEMENTING AGENCY.

PA&ED includes the completion of the Final Environmental Document and the Project Report (documenting the project alternative selection).

- City is the Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) IMPLEMENTING AGENCY.

PS&E includes the development of the plans, specifications, and estimate; obtaining any resource agency permits; and the advertisement/award of the construction contract.

- City is the RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPLEMENTING AGENCY.

RIGHT-OF-WAY includes coordination with utility owners for the protection, removal, or relocation of utilities; pre-construction monument preservation; the acquisition of right-of-way interests; and post-construction work such as right-of-way monumentation/recordation, relinquishments/vacations, and excess land transactions. The RIGHT-OF-WAY component budget identifies the cost of the capital costs of right-of-way acquisition (RIGHT-OF-WAY CAPITAL) and the cost of the staff work in support of the acquisition (RIGHT-OF-WAY SUPPORT).

11. City will provide a Quality Management Plan (QMP) for the WORK in every PROJECT COMPONENT that they are implementing. The QMP describes the IMPLEMENTING AGENCY's quality policy and how it will be used. The QMP will include a process for resolving disputes between the PARTIES at the team level. The QMP is subject to CALTRANS review and concurrence.
12. Any PARTY responsible for completing WORK will make its personnel and consultants that prepare WORK available to help resolve WORK-related problems and changes for the entire duration of the PROJECT including PROJECT work that may occur under separate agreements.

Funding

13. The WORK does not use funds administered by CALTRANS. PARTIES will amend this AGREEMENT should this condition change.
14. Each PARTY is responsible for the costs they incur in performing the WORK.

CALTRANS' Quality Management

15. CALTRANS, as the owner/operator of the State Highway System (SHS), will perform quality management work including Quality Management Assessment (QMA), environmental document quality control, and owner/operator approvals for the portions of WORK within the existing and proposed SHS right-of-way.
16. CALTRANS' Quality Management Assessment (QMA) efforts are to ensure that City's quality assurance results in WORK that is in accordance with the applicable standards and the PROJECT's quality management plan (QMP). QMA does not include any efforts necessary to develop or deliver WORK or any validation by verifying or rechecking WORK.

When CALTRANS performs QMA, it does so for its own benefit. No one can assign liability to CALTRANS due to its QMA.

17. CALTRANS, as the owner/operator of the State Highway System, will approve WORK products in accordance with CALTRANS policies and guidance and as indicated in this AGREEMENT.
18. Per National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) assignment and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) statutes, CALTRANS will perform environmental document quality control and NEPA assignment review procedures for environmental documentation. CALTRANS quality control and quality assurance procedures for all environmental documents are described in Chapter 38 of the Standard Environmental Reference (SER), available at <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/environmental-analysis/standard-environmental-reference-ser/volume-1-guidance-for-compliance/ch-38-nepa-assignment>. This also includes the independent judgment analysis and determination under CEQA that the environmental documentation meets CEQA requirements.
19. City will provide WORK-related products and supporting documentation upon CALTRANS' request for the purpose of CALTRANS' quality management work.

20. City, including any employee, agent, consultant or sub-consultant retained by the City, shall implement uniform document control policies necessary to retain all records and electronically stored information associated with the WORK, including but not limited to those records identified in California Public Resources Code, Section 21167.6, and including email and attachments, in a manner consistent with the CALTRANS Uniform Filing System and the "Final Caltrans Environmental Records Retention Policy", available at <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/environmental-analysis/documents/ser/nepa-recordretention-policy-final-all.pdf>. These records, along with an index of the records, shall be provided to CALTRANS within 60 days of CALTRANS' written request.
21. The cost of CALTRANS' quality management work is to be borne by CALTRANS.

CEQA/NEPA Lead Agency

22. CALTRANS is the CEQA Lead Agency for the PROJECT.
23. CALTRANS is the NEPA Lead Agency for the PROJECT.

Environmental Permits, Approvals and Agreements

24. City will comply with the commitments and conditions set forth in the environmental documentation, environmental permits, approvals, and applicable agreements as those commitments and conditions apply to City's responsibilities in this AGREEMENT.
25. Unless otherwise assigned in this AGREEMENT, the IMPLEMENTING AGENCY for a PROJECT COMPONENT is responsible for all PROJECT COMPONENT WORK associated with coordinating, obtaining, implementing, renewing, and amending the PROJECT permits, agreements, and approvals whether they are identified in the planned project scope of work or become necessary in the course of completing the PROJECT.
26. It is expected that the PROJECT requires the following environmental permits/approvals:

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS/REQUIREMENTS
401 Regional Water Quality Control Board
1602 California Department of Fish & Wildlife
Air Quality Permits
Local Agency Concurrence/Permit

Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED)

27. As the PA&ED IMPLEMENTING AGENCY, City is responsible for all PA&ED WORK except those activities and responsibilities that are assigned to another PARTY and those activities that are excluded under this AGREEMENT.
28. CALTRANS will be responsible for completing the following PA&ED activities:

CALTRANS Work Breakdown Structure Identifier (If Applicable)
100.10.10.xx Quality Management
165.15.15.xx Essential Fish Habitat Consultation
165.15.15.xx Section 7 Consultation
165.25.25 Approval to Circulate Resolution
175.20 Project Preferred Alternative
180.10.05.05.xx CEQA Lead Final Env. Doc QA/QC and Approval
180.10.05.45 Section 7 Consultation
180.15.05 Record of Decision (NEPA)
180.15.10 Notice of Determination (CEQA)

29. Any PARTY preparing environmental documentation, including studies and reports, will ensure that qualified personnel remain available to help resolve environmental issues and perform any necessary work to ensure that the PROJECT remains in environmental compliance.
30. City will provide written notice of the initiation of environmental studies to the CEQA and NEPA Lead Agencies prior to completing any other PA&ED phase work.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

31. Environmental documentation will be prepared in compliance with the California Public Resources Code §§ 21080.3.1(d)(e). CALTRANS will provide, and City will use, a letter template and a list of California Native American tribes requesting notification. City will prepare consultation documentation for CALTRANS' signature and transmittal in compliance with the statutorily required time frames.
32. The CEQA Lead Agency will determine the type of CEQA documentation and will cause that documentation to be prepared in accordance with CEQA requirements.

33. Any PARTY involved in the preparation of CEQA documentation will prepare the documentation to meet CEQA requirements and follow the CEQA Lead Agency's standards that apply to the CEQA process.
34. Any PARTY preparing any portion of the CEQA documentation, including any studies and reports, will submit that portion of the documentation to the CEQA Lead Agency for review, comment, and approval at appropriate stages of development prior to public availability.
35. City will submit CEQA-related public notices to CALTRANS for review, comment, and approval prior to publication and circulation.
36. The CEQA Lead Agency will attend all CEQA-related public meetings.
37. City will submit all CEQA-related public meeting materials to the CEQA Lead Agency for review, comment, and approval at least ten (10) working days prior to the public meeting date.

If the CEQA Lead Agency makes any changes to the materials, then the CEQA Lead Agency will allow City to review, comment, and concur on those changes at least three (3) working days prior to the public meeting date. The CEQA Lead Agency has final approval authority over all CEQA documentation.

38. If a PARTY who is not the CEQA Lead Agency holds a public meeting about the PROJECT, that PARTY must clearly state its role in the PROJECT and the identity of the CEQA Lead Agency on all meeting publications. All meeting publications must also inform the attendees that public comments collected at the meetings are not part of the CEQA public review process.

That PARTY will submit all meeting advertisements, agendas, exhibits, handouts, and materials to the CEQA Lead Agency for review, comment, and approval at least ten (10) working days prior to publication or use. If that PARTY makes any changes to the materials, it will allow the CEQA Lead Agency to review, comment on, and approve those changes at least three (3) working days prior to the public meeting date.

The CEQA Lead Agency maintains final editorial control with respect to text or graphics that could lead to public confusion over CEQA-related roles and responsibilities.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

39. Pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Sections 326 and 327, CALTRANS is the NEPA Lead Agency for the PROJECT. CALTRANS is responsible for NEPA compliance, will determine the type of NEPA documentation, and will cause that documentation to be prepared in accordance with NEPA requirements.

CALTRANS, as the NEPA Lead Agency for PROJECT, is responsible for the review, comment, and approval all environmental documentation (including, but not limited to, studies, reports, public notices, and public meeting materials, determinations, administrative drafts, and final environmental documents) at appropriate stages of development prior to approval and public availability.

When required as NEPA Lead Agency, CALTRANS will conduct consultation and coordination and obtain, renew, or amend approvals pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act, and Essential Fish Habitat.

When required as NEPA Lead Agency, CALTRANS will conduct consultation and coordination approvals pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

40. Any PARTY involved in the preparation of NEPA documentation will follow FHWA and CALTRANS standards that apply to the NEPA process including, but not limited to, the guidance provided in the FHWA Environmental Toolkit (available at <http://environment.fhwa.dot.gov/index.asp>) and the CALTRANS Standard Environmental Reference.
41. Any PARTY preparing any portion of the NEPA documentation (including, but not limited to, studies, reports, public notices, and public meeting materials, determinations, administrative drafts, and final environmental documents) will submit that portion of the documentation to CALTRANS for CALTRANS' review, comment, and approval prior to public availability.
42. City will prepare, publicize, and circulate all NEPA-related public notices, except Federal Register notices. City will submit all notices to the NEPA Lead Agency for review, comment, and approval prior to publication and circulation.
- CALTRANS will work with the appropriate federal agency to publish notices in the Federal Register.
43. The NEPA Lead Agency will attend all NEPA-related public meetings.

44. City will submit all NEPA-related public meeting materials to CALTRANS for CALTRANS' review, comment, and approval at least ten (10) working days prior to the public meeting date.
45. If a PARTY who is not the NEPA Lead Agency holds a public meeting about the PROJECT, that PARTY must clearly state its role in the PROJECT and the identity of the NEPA Lead Agency on all meeting publications. All meeting publications must also inform the attendees that public comments collected at the meetings are not part of the NEPA public review process.

That PARTY will submit all meeting advertisements, agendas, exhibits, handouts, and materials to the NEPA Lead Agency for review, comment, and approval at least ten (10) working days prior to publication or use. If that PARTY makes any changes to the materials, it will allow the NEPA Lead Agency to review, comment on, and approve those changes at least three (3) working days prior to the public meeting date.

The NEPA Lead Agency has final approval authority with respect to text or graphics that could lead to public confusion over NEPA-related roles and responsibilities.

46. City will ensure that the PROJECT is included in the approved Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) prior to the NEPA Lead Agency's approval of the environmental document.

Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E)

47. As the PS&E IMPLEMENTING AGENCY, City is responsible for all PS&E WORK except those activities and responsibilities that are assigned to another PARTY and those activities that are excluded under this AGREEMENT.
48. CALTRANS will be responsible for completing the following PS&E activities:

CALTRANS Work Breakdown Structure Identifier (If Applicable)
100.15.10.xx Quality Management

49. City will prepare Utility Conflict Maps identifying the accommodation, protection, relocation, or removal of any existing utility facilities that conflict with construction of the PROJECT or that violate CALTRANS' encroachment policy.

City will provide CALTRANS a copy of Utility Conflict Maps for CALTRANS' concurrence prior to issuing the Notices to Owner and executing the utility agreement. All utility conflicts will be addressed in the PROJECT plans, specifications, and estimate.

50. City will determine the cost to positively identify and locate, accommodate, protect, relocate, or remove any utility facilities whether inside or outside the State Highway System right-of-way in accordance with federal and California laws and regulations, and CALTRANS' policies, procedures, standards, practices, and applicable agreements including but not limited to Freeway Master Contracts.
51. CALTRANS will not issue the Acceptance of Final Plans, Specifications, and Estimate to City until the following conditions are met:
 - Any new or amended Maintenance Agreement required for the WORK are executed.
 - Any new or amended Freeway Agreement required for the WORK are executed.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

52. As the RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPLEMENTING AGENCY, City is responsible for all RIGHT-OF-WAY WORK except those activities and responsibilities that are assigned to another PARTY and those activities that are excluded under this AGREEMENT.
53. CALTRANS will be responsible for completing the following RIGHT-OF-WAY activities:

CALTRANS Work Breakdown Structure Identifier (If Applicable)
100.25.10.xx Quality Management

54. The selection of personnel performing RIGHT-OF-WAY WORK will be in accordance with federal and California laws and regulations, and CALTRANS' policies, procedures, standards, practices, and applicable agreements.
55. City will make all necessary arrangements with utility owners for the timely accommodation, protection, relocation, or removal of any existing utility facilities that conflict with construction of the PROJECT or that violate CALTRANS' encroachment policy.
56. City will provide CALTRANS a copy of conflict maps, relocation plans, proposed notices to owner, reports of investigation, and utility agreements (if applicable) for CALTRANS' concurrence prior to issuing the notices to owner and executing the utility agreement. All

utility conflicts will be fully addressed prior to Right-of-Way Certification and all arrangements for the protection, relocation, or removal of all conflicting facilities will be completed prior to construction contract award and included in the PROJECT plans, specifications, and estimate.

57. City will provide a land surveyor licensed in the State of California to be responsible for surveying and right-of-way engineering. All survey and right-of-way engineering documents will bear the professional seal, certificate number, registration classification, expiration date of certificate, and signature of the responsible surveyor.
58. Acquisition of right-of-way will not occur prior to the approval of the environmental document without written approval from the CEQA Lead Agency.
59. City will hear and adopt Resolutions of Necessity when authorized to do so by law or will work with local agencies having jurisdiction and authorized under the law to hear and adopt Resolutions of Necessity.

City will conduct and document Condemnation Evaluation Meetings and Condemnation Panel Review Meetings as required in accordance with CALTRANS policy and guidance. CALTRANS will be notified in advance of any Condemnation Evaluation Meetings and Condemnation Panel Review Meetings.

60. If City acquires any right-of-way to be incorporated into the State Highway System (SHS), City will first acquire in its own name.

No right-of-way will be acquired in CALTRANS' name.

Title to the SHS right-of-way will ultimately be vested in the State. CALTRANS' acceptance of title will occur after the Right-of-Way Closeout activities are complete.

61. City will utilize a public agency currently qualified by CALTRANS or a properly licensed consultant for all RIGHT-OF-WAY activities. A qualified right-of-way agent will administer all right-of-way consultant contracts.

City will submit a draft Right-of-Way Certification to CALTRANS six weeks prior to the scheduled Right-of-Way Certification milestone date for review.

City will submit a final Right-of-Way Certification to CALTRANS for approval prior to the advertising the construction contract.

62. Physical and legal possession of the right-of-way must be completed prior to advertising the construction contract, unless PARTIES mutually agree to other arrangements in writing.
63. CALTRANS' acceptance of right-of-way title is subject to review of an Updated Preliminary Title Report provided by City verifying that the title is free of all encumbrances and liens. Upon acceptance, City will provide CALTRANS with a Policy of Title Insurance in CALTRANS' name.
64. Right-of-way conveyances must be completed prior to WORK completion, unless PARTIES mutually agree to other arrangements in writing.

Schedule

65. PARTIES will manage the WORK schedule to ensure the timely use of committed funds and to ensure compliance with any environmental permits, right-of-way agreements, construction contracts, and any other commitments. PARTIES will communicate schedule risks or changes as soon as they are identified and will actively manage and mitigate schedule risks.

Additional Provisions

Standards

66. PARTIES will perform all WORK in accordance with federal and California laws, regulations, and standards; Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) standards; and CALTRANS standards. CALTRANS standards include, but are not limited to, the guidance provided in the:

- CADD Users Manual
- CALTRANS policies and directives
- Plans Preparation Manual
- Project Development Procedures Manual (PDPM)
- Workplan Standards Guide
- Standard Environmental Reference
- Highway Design Manual
- Right of Way Manual
- Stewardship and Oversight Agreement
- Construction Manual Supplement for Local Agency Resident Engineers
- Local Agency Structure Representative Guidelines

Noncompliant Work

67. CALTRANS retains the right to reject noncompliant WORK. City agrees to suspend WORK upon request by CALTRANS for the purpose of protecting public safety, preserving property rights, and ensuring that all WORK is in the best interest of the State Highway System.

Qualifications

68. Each PARTY will ensure that personnel participating in WORK are appropriately qualified or licensed to perform the tasks assigned to them.

Consultant Selection

69. City will invite CALTRANS to participate in the selection of any consultants that participate in the WORK.

Encroachment Permits

70. CALTRANS will issue, upon proper application, the encroachment permits required for WORK within State Highway System (SHS) right-of-way. City, their contractors, consultants, agents, and utility owners will not work within the SHS right-of-way without an encroachment permit issued by CALTRANS. CALTRANS will provide encroachment permits to City at no cost. CALTRANS will provide encroachment permits to utility owners at no cost. If the encroachment permit and this AGREEMENT conflict, the requirements of this AGREEMENT will prevail.

71. The IMPLEMENTING AGENCY for a PROJECT COMPONENT will coordinate, prepare, obtain, implement, renew, and amend any encroachment permits needed to complete the WORK.

Protected Resources

72. If any PARTY discovers unanticipated cultural, archaeological, paleontological, or other protected resources during WORK, all WORK in that area will stop and that PARTY will notify all PARTIES within 24 hours of discovery. WORK may only resume after a qualified professional has evaluated the nature and significance of the discovery and CALTRANS approves a plan for its removal or protection.

Disclosures

73. PARTIES will hold all administrative drafts and administrative final reports, studies, materials, and documentation relied upon, produced, created, or utilized for the WORK in confidence to the extent permitted by law and where applicable, the provisions of California Government Code, Section 7921.505(c)(5) will protect the confidentiality of such documents in the event that said documents are shared between PARTIES.

PARTIES will not distribute, release, or share said documents with anyone other than employees, agents, and consultants who require access to complete the WORK without the written consent of the PARTY authorized to release them, unless required or authorized to do so by law.

74. If a PARTY receives a public records request pertaining to the WORK, that PARTY will notify PARTIES within five (5) working days of receipt and make PARTIES aware of any disclosed public records.

Hazardous Materials

75. HM-1 is hazardous material (including, but not limited to, hazardous waste) that may require removal and disposal pursuant to federal or state law, whether it is disturbed by the PROJECT or not.

HM-2 is hazardous material (including, but not limited to, hazardous waste) that may require removal and disposal pursuant to federal or state law only if disturbed by the PROJECT.

The management activities related to HM-1 and HM-2, including and without limitation, any necessary manifest requirements and disposal facility designations are referred to herein as HM-1 MANAGEMENT and HM-2 MANAGEMENT respectively.

76. If HM-1 or HM-2 is found, the discovering PARTY will immediately notify all other PARTIES.
77. CALTRANS, independent of the PROJECT, is responsible for any HM-1 found within the existing State Highway System right-of-way. CALTRANS will undertake, or cause to be undertaken, HM-1 MANAGEMENT with minimum impact to the PROJECT schedule.

CALTRANS, independent of the PROJECT, will pay, or cause to be paid, the cost of HM-1 MANAGEMENT related to HM-1 found within the existing State Highway System right-of-way.

78. City, independent of the PROJECT, is responsible for any HM-1 found within the PROJECT limits and outside the existing State Highway System right-of-way. City will undertake, or cause to be undertaken, HM-1 MANAGEMENT with minimum impact to the PROJECT schedule.

City, independent of the PROJECT, will pay, or cause to be paid, the cost of HM-1 MANAGEMENT for HM-1 found within the PROJECT limits and outside of the existing State Highway System right-of-way.

79. The CONSTRUCTION IMPLEMENTING AGENCY is responsible for HM-2 MANAGEMENT within the PROJECT limits.

City and CALTRANS will comply with the Soil Management Agreement for Aerially Deposited Lead Contaminated Soils (Soil Management Agreement) executed between CALTRANS and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). Under Section 3.2 of the Soil Management Agreement, CALTRANS and City each retain joint and severable liability for noncompliance with the provisions of the Soil Management Agreement. City will assume all responsibilities assigned to CALTRANS in the Soil Management Agreement during PROJECT COMPONENTS for which they are the IMPLEMENTING AGENCY except for final placement and burial of soil within the State right-of-way, per Section 4.5 of the Soil Management Agreement, which is subject to CALTRANS concurrence and reporting to DTSC which will be performed by CALTRANS.

80. CALTRANS' acquisition or acceptance of title to any property on which any HM-1 or HM-2 is found will proceed in accordance with CALTRANS' policy on such acquisition.

Claims

81. City may accept, reject, compromise, settle, or litigate claims of any consultants or contractors hired to complete WORK without concurrence from the other PARTY.
82. PARTIES will confer on any claim that may affect the WORK or PARTIES' liability or responsibility under this AGREEMENT in order to retain resolution possibilities for potential future claims. No PARTY will prejudice the rights of another PARTY until after PARTIES confer on the claim.
83. If the WORK expends state or federal funds, each PARTY will comply with the Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards of 2 CFR, Part 200. PARTIES will ensure that any for-profit consultant hired to participate in the WORK will comply with the requirements in 48 CFR, Chapter 1, Part 31. When state or federal funds are expended on the WORK these principles and requirements apply to all funding types included in this AGREEMENT.

Accounting and Audits

84. If the WORK expends state or federal funds, each PARTY will undergo an annual audit in accordance with the Single Audit Act in the Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards as defined in 2 CFR, Part 200.
85. When a PARTY reimburses a consultant for WORK with state or federal funds, the procurement of the consultant and the consultant overhead costs will be in accordance with the Local Assistance Procedures Manual, Chapter 10.

Interruption of Work

86. If WORK stops for any reason, IMPLEMENTING AGENCY will place the PROJECT right-of-way in a safe and operable condition acceptable to CALTRANS.
87. If WORK stops for any reason, each PARTY will continue with environmental commitments included in the environmental documentation, permits, agreements, or approvals that are in effect at the time that WORK stops, and will keep the PROJECT in environmental compliance until WORK resumes.

Penalties, Judgments and Settlements

88. The cost of awards, judgments, fines, interest, penalties, attorney's fees, and/or settlements generated by the WORK are considered WORK costs.
89. The cost of legal challenges to the environmental process or documentation are considered WORK costs.
90. Any PARTY whose action or lack of action causes the levy of fines, interest, or penalties will indemnify and hold all other PARTIES harmless per the terms of this AGREEMENT.

Project Files

91. City will furnish CALTRANS with the Project History Files related to the PROJECT facilities on State Highway System within sixty (60) days following the completion of each PROJECT COMPONENT. City will assure that the Project History File is prepared and submitted in compliance with the Project Development Procedures Manual, Chapter 7. All material will be submitted neatly in a three-ring binder and in PDF format.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

92. All portions of this AGREEMENT, including the RECITALS section, are enforceable.

Venue

93. PARTIES understand that this AGREEMENT is in accordance with and governed by the Constitution and laws of the State of California. This AGREEMENT will be enforceable in the State of California. Any PARTY initiating legal action arising from this AGREEMENT will file and maintain that legal action in the Superior Court of the county in which the CALTRANS district office that is signatory to this AGREEMENT resides, or in the Superior Court of the county in which the PROJECT is physically located.

Exemptions

94. All CALTRANS' obligations and commitments under this AGREEMENT are subject to the appropriation of resources by the Legislature, the State Budget Act authority, programming and allocation of funds by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

Indemnification

95. Neither CALTRANS nor any of its officers and employees, are responsible for any injury, damage, or liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by City, its contractors, sub-contractors, and/or its agents under or in connection with any work, authority, or jurisdiction conferred upon City under this AGREEMENT. It is understood and agreed that City, to the extent permitted by law, will defend, indemnify, and save harmless CALTRANS and all of its officers and employees from all claims, suits, or actions of every name, kind, and description brought forth under, but not limited to, tortious, contractual, inverse condemnation, or other theories and assertions of liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by City, its contractors, sub-contractors, and/or its agents under this AGREEMENT.
96. Neither City nor any of its officers and employees, are responsible for any injury, damage, or liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by CALTRANS, its contractors, sub-contractors, and/or its agents under or in connection with any work, authority, or jurisdiction conferred upon CALTRANS under this AGREEMENT. It is understood and agreed that CALTRANS, to the extent permitted by law, will defend, indemnify, and save harmless City and all of its officers and employees from all claims, suits, or actions of every name, kind, and description brought forth under, but not limited to, tortious, contractual, inverse condemnation, or other theories and assertions of liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by CALTRANS, its contractors, sub-contractors, and/or its agents under this AGREEMENT.

Non-parties

97. PARTIES do not intend this AGREEMENT to create a third-party beneficiary or define duties, obligations, or rights for entities in PARTIES not signatory to this AGREEMENT. PARTIES do not intend this AGREEMENT to affect their legal liability by imposing any standard of care for fulfilling the WORK different from the standards imposed by law.
98. PARTIES will not assign or attempt to assign obligations to entities not signatory to this AGREEMENT without an amendment to this AGREEMENT.

Ambiguity and Performance

99. Neither PARTY will interpret any ambiguity contained in this AGREEMENT against the other PARTY. PARTIES waive the provisions of California Civil Code, Section 1654.

A waiver of a PARTY's performance under this AGREEMENT will not constitute a continuous waiver of any other provision.

100. A delay or omission to exercise a right or power due to a default does not negate the use of that right or power in the future when deemed necessary.

Defaults

101. If any PARTY defaults in its performance of the WORK, a non-defaulting PARTY will request in writing that the default be remedied within thirty (30) calendar days. If the defaulting PARTY fails to do so, the non-defaulting PARTY may initiate dispute resolution.

Dispute Resolution

102. PARTIES will first attempt to resolve AGREEMENT disputes at the PROJECT team level as described in the Quality Management Plan. If they cannot resolve the dispute themselves, the CALTRANS District Director and the Executive Officer of City will attempt to negotiate a resolution. If PARTIES do not reach a resolution, PARTIES' legal counsel will initiate mediation. PARTIES agree to participate in mediation in good faith and will share equally in its costs.

Neither the dispute nor the mediation process relieves PARTIES from full and timely performance of the WORK in accordance with the terms of this AGREEMENT. However, if any PARTY stops fulfilling its obligations, any other PARTY may seek equitable relief to ensure that the WORK continues.

Except for equitable relief and/or to preserve the statute of limitations, no PARTY may file a civil complaint until after mediation, or forty-five (45) calendar days after filing the written mediation request, whichever occurs first.

PARTIES will file any civil complaints in the Superior Court of the county in which the CALTRANS District Office signatory to this AGREEMENT resides or in the Superior Court of the county in which the PROJECT is physically located.

103. PARTIES maintain the ability to pursue alternative or additional dispute remedies if a previously selected remedy does not achieve resolution.

Prevailing Wage

104. When WORK falls within the Labor Code § 1720(a)(1) definition of "public works" in that it is construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair; or maintenance work under Labor Code § 1771, PARTIES will conform to the provisions of Labor Code §§ 1720-1815, and all applicable provisions of California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Division 1, Chapter 8, Subchapter 3, Articles 1-7. PARTIES will include prevailing wage requirements in contracts for public work and require contractors to include the same prevailing wage requirements in all subcontracts.

Work performed by a PARTY's own employees is exempt from the Labor Code's Prevailing Wage requirements.

If WORK is paid for, in whole or part, with federal funds and is of the type of work subject to federal prevailing wage requirements, PARTIES will conform to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts, 40 U.S.C. §§ 3141-3148.

When applicable, PARTIES will include federal prevailing wage requirements in contracts for public works. WORK performed by a PARTY's employees is exempt from federal prevailing wage requirements.

SIGNATURES

PARTIES are authorized to enter into this AGREEMENT and have delegated to the undersigned the authority to execute this AGREEMENT on behalf of the respective agencies and hereby covenants to have followed all the necessary legal requirements to validly execute this AGREEMENT. By signing below, the PARTIES each expressly agree to execute this AGREEMENT electronically.

The PARTIES acknowledge that executed copies of this AGREEMENT may be exchanged by facsimile or email, and that such copies shall be deemed to be effective as originals.

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

Catalino Pining III
District 8 Director

Verification of Funds and Authority:

Karem Evans
District Budget Manager (Acting)

Certified as to financial terms and policies:

Darwin Salmos
HQ Accounting Supervisor

CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE

Jason Simpson
City Manager

Attest:

Candice Alvarez
City Clerk

name TBD