



SACOG Board of Directors

October 13, 2005

Elk Grove-Rancho Cordova-El Dorado Connector Environmental Phase I

Issue: Selecting and hiring a consulting firm to complete the work outlined in the six-month action plan for the Connector project as approved by the Board in September.

Recommendation: Because there was no quorum, the Administration Committee did not take an official vote, but it was the consensus of those attending that they recommend that the SACOG Board of Directors authorize the Executive Director to select and enter into a contract with a consulting firm to complete the work described in the attached scope of work.

Committee Action/Discussion: At its September meeting, the SACOG Board of Directors launched an aggressive series of activities to advance the Elk Grove-Rancho Cordova-El Dorado Connector Project. The first step is to hire a consulting firm to complete the work outlined in the six-month action plan. SACOG staff issued a request for proposals (RFP) based on the attached scope of work (Attachment A). The RFP was issued on September 28, 2005 and proposals are due October 26, 2005. The objectives for the next six months, as approved by the SACOG Board at its September meeting, are to:

- Analyze governance and staffing options for completing the environmental, engineering, and construction phases of the project and establish a governance structure (e.g., a JPA or alternative) to complete the project
- Complete the Purpose and Need Statement for the project
- Prepare functional guidelines for the Connector that will ensure that as local segments are designed and constructed, they are consistent with the regional function of the Connector and Blueprint Implementation
- Develop a preliminary financial plan
- Begin initial project development and environmental screening.

The Committee recommends that the Executive Director be authorized to select and enter into a contract with a consulting firm to complete the tasks described in the RFP. This will allow staff to move ahead more quickly with the six-month work program, rather than waiting for Board action in mid-November.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

MM:AH:ts
Attachment

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Scope of Work
ELK GROVE – RANCHO CORDOVA – EL DORADO CONNECTOR
Environmental Phase 1 (Alternatives Analysis and Project Definition)
Request for Proposal

BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2025 includes a multi-modal transportation corridor that connects Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, and El Dorado Hills. The "Elk Grove-Rancho Cordova-El Dorado Connector" is being proposed to link residential areas and employment centers and to provide multi-modal options for travel within the corridor, including transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. The Connector is intended to relieve congestion on the overcrowded existing two-lane roadways that currently serve the corridor.

PURPOSE

To provide a comprehensive and adequate alternatives analysis and project definition for identifying a preferred alternative for the Elk Grove – Rancho Cordova – El Dorado Connector to be addressed in subsequent environmental and engineering studies. The level of engineering, environmental assessment and cost estimates will be prepared to an appropriate level for comparing and selecting a preferred alternative.

OBJECTIVES

- Prepare a Project Definition, Purpose and Need Statement, Project Goals and Objectives, Evaluation Criteria and Alternatives Evaluation.
- Define a reasonable range of alternatives at a sufficient level of detail to support further analysis, environmental and engineering studies.
- Develop preliminary cost estimates and financial plan.
- Prepare a Project Study Report equivalent suitable for further project development that defines the scope, costs and schedule for the next phase of project development.

SCHEDULE

SACOG has identified a 30 week time frame to achieve the objectives outlined above. The Consultant must identify all activities and tasks to accomplish these objectives. The Consultant may propose an alternative approach to accomplishing the objectives stated above if such an approach can be achieved within the 30 week time frame or less.

Task 1 - Project Management, Administration and Support

This task involves project management, administration and support services throughout the course of the work effort. These services include regular project status reporting and participation in SACOG Project Team and agency's meetings and hearings as needed. The Consultant should identify proposed staffing and team organization, roles and responsibilities, quality assurance and control procedures, and work program in a project management plan. The plan should address methods to be used to ensure the presentation of high-quality deliverable work products and to be responsive to SACOG staff direction. All work products will be provided in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. SACOG will reject any plans, reports or other work products not prepared in accordance with SACOG requirements and will require correction and resubmission at no cost to SACOG.

The Consultant shall also prepare and monitor a project schedule as part of the Project Management Plan. The Consultant is to recommend and implement corrective measures as approved by SACOG to keep the project on schedule.

SACOG will require monthly invoices (with supporting documentation) and project status reports. The status report should provide updated project budget and schedule information.

*Task 1 Deliverable Work Products: 5 copies of the Project Management Plan
Monthly invoices w/status reports*

Task 2 – Prepare Purpose and Need Statement and Goals and Objectives

The Consultant shall assist SACOG staff in the preparation of a Purpose and Need Statement for the project and facilitate the timely agreement on the Purpose and Need Statement from the appropriate state and federal resource agencies, including the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), as well as the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The purpose and need statement should build upon the input received from the stakeholders set forth in the Elements of Purpose and Need developed as part of the *Final Concept Plan*. The purpose and need statement should define the transportation conditions and problems in the study area, describe the proposed action and why the action is being proposed, and should be supported by quantified data to be provided by the Consultant. The Consultant will also define the project goals and objectives. The draft purpose and need statement and goals and objectives will be presented to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) for review and comment. Upon the receipt of comments from the PAC and SACOG staff, the Consultant shall prepare a final draft of the purpose and need statement and the project goals and objectives.

*Task 2 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of draft Purpose and Need Statement and Goals and Objectives
30 copies of final Purpose and Need Statement and Goals and Objectives*

Task 3 – Develop Screening Criteria

The Consultant will develop screening criteria to be used in identifying only the most reasonable and feasible alternatives that warrant further consideration and analysis during the preparation of the EIS/EIR. The screening criteria may include such elements as cost, environmental impacts, and other issues to be defined. First-level screening criteria will be developed to quickly and efficiently identify the alternatives that most warrant further consideration and evaluation. The screening criteria will include a fatal flaw analysis and other qualitative evaluations to narrow the number of alternatives resulting from the *Final Concept Plan* as well as all other reasonable and feasible alternatives. The draft screening criteria will be presented to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) for review and comment. Upon the receipt of comments from the PAC and SACOG staff, the Consultant shall prepare a final draft of the screening criteria.

*Task 3 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of draft screening criteria and screening results
30 copies of final screening criteria and screening results*

Task 4 - Travel Demand Forecasting

The primary purpose of this task will be to prepare the travel forecasts for year 2030 conditions. SACOG will use the most current version of the regional travel demand model and provide to the consultant base year data, available future year networks and land use data, and model documentation. SACOG will also run the regional travel demand model and provide travel demand data.

The consultant will assist SACOG in preparing the travel demand analysis, by completing the following tasks:

- Preparing road and transit networks for each alternative and a no-project scenario.
- Working with SACOG to estimate the differences in land use development (job and population growth) due to different transportation alternatives.
- Summarize the travel demand results for existing and all future year alternatives, including corridor and region-wide travel demand, peak period volumes and congestion levels, and person trips by mode for the corridor and the region.
- Analyze the differences among the alternatives to provide information to Task 5: Environmental Screening.

*Task 4 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of Draft Travel Demand Analysis Technical Report
30 copies of Final Travel Demand Analysis Technical Report*

Task 5 – Conceptual Engineering

In this task, the Consultant shall further refine the range of alternatives to a sufficient level of

detail to compare the relative differences between alternatives. The Consultant shall perform conceptual engineering at the 10% order of magnitude level for all reasonable and feasible alternatives, including those specified in the *Final Concept Plan*, and any other viable/practical “alternative” (or combination of features that may not be identified in the Final Concept Plan). For purposes of providing a preliminary estimate of labor hours, assume the evaluation of alternatives to include the following:

- Conceptual Alternative I: Hood-Franklin Road, Kammerer Road, Grant Line Road, Sunrise Boulevard, the proposed Alta Sunrise, and White Rock Road.
- Conceptual Alternative II: Hood-Franklin Road, Kammerer Road, Grant Line Road, White Rock Road.
- Conceptual Alternative III: Hood-Franklin Road, Kammerer Road, Grant Line Road, and White Rock Road (includes tunnel or bypass in the community of Sheldon). Also includes an alternate transit alignment from Elk Grove to Rancho Cordova, and from El Dorado Hills to Rancho Cordova, along Cosumnes River Boulevard/Calvine Road, connecting I-5 to Grant Line Road and on Bradshaw Road, connecting to Rancho Cordova via Folsom Boulevard. A pedestrian/bike trail alignment follows Laguna Creek, the Folsom South Canal, Folsom Boulevard, and Alder Creek, connecting to White Rock Road.
- Conceptual Alternative IV: Grant Line Road, Bradshaw Road, a new roadway south of Mather Airport, Douglas Boulevard to Grant Line Road and White Rock Road. Includes a transit alignment along this route, deviating in order to provide connections to the Sunrise Boulevard Light Rail Station. The pedestrian/bike trail alignment is the same as in Alternative III.

Engineering for alternatives selected for evaluation following completion of the screening process described in Task 3 is to be advanced only as necessary to support the environmental screening analysis, and should include the following:

5.1. Geotechnical

Prepare preliminary foundation reports, soil investigations, water data and other information that are necessary to allow preliminary evaluation of alternatives. Develop other information concerning adjacent structures impacted by the project, water treatment considerations and information concerning wetlands. Perform investigations and analysis necessary to assess aspects of soil and foundations behaviors.

5.2. Field Surveys and Reconnaissance

Perform field surveys and other reconnaissance necessary for the completion of conceptual engineering. Prepare surveys, aerial maps and data necessary to support conceptual engineering, preparation of the Environmental Document and to support public outreach and meetings. New surveys are to be provided for all areas affected by project alternatives. Photographic scale and detail are to be as necessary to support future preliminary engineering requirements. Prepare aerial maps for use as a photographic base in development of presentation media and design drawings.

5.3. Plan and Profile

Establish horizontal and vertical alignment for alternatives. Provide plan and profile information for connections to other roadways. Provide horizontal and vertical alignments. Provide all information necessary to establish the limits of construction and associated rights-of-way.

5.4. Structures

Provide preliminary design of all bridges, retaining structures and other permanent or temporary structures associated with alternatives selected for evaluation. Develop sufficient detail concerning the structures to allow preparation of preliminary cost estimates. Perform structure type selection studies and provide recommendations.

5.5. Tunnels

Alternatives selected for evaluation will likely include one or more tunnels. Cut-and-cover construction is most likely but other construction techniques may be considered. Provide preliminary design of tunnels including geometrics, structural design, shoring and architectural design. Analyze ventilation requirements and recommend tunnel configurations best suited to alternatives selected for evaluation.

5.6. Utilities

Develop preliminary mapping of all utility systems affected by the proposed alternatives, and identify typical relocation costs.

5.7. Rights-of-Way

Research and report on the status of current rights-of-way and other properties potentially affected by the project. Identify parkland and other property affected by alternatives selected for evaluation. Prepare estimates of the valuation of any property to be permanently acquired or needed for temporary construction easements.

5.8. Cost Estimates

Provide preliminary cost estimates based upon conceptual engineering completed for alternatives selected for evaluation. Detail items of work to be included, estimates of quantities and costs at a level of detail appropriate for the stage of engineering and information available. Provide estimates of costs for all project elements including rights-of-way, easements, relocations, environmental mitigation, protection of facilities and any other elements affecting project cost. Describe the level of construction cost contingency associated with Consultant's approach to cost estimating.

*Task 5 Deliverable Work Products: 10% Engineering Plans (11"x17")
10 copies of Draft Design Reports and Other Conceptual
Engineering Reports
30 copies of Final Design Report and Other Conceptual
Engineering Reports*

Task 6 – Environmental Screening

The Consultant will conduct a screening-level analysis or environmental scan to determine the potential environmental impacts of each alternative identified in the *Final Concept Plan* or other viable/practical combination of project features. The purpose of the preliminary environmental analysis is to identify environmentally sensitive areas early so that these areas can be avoided if possible during design. The preliminary environmental analysis will also assist in determining the level of additional environmental documentation that will be required in subsequent project phases.

Primary areas to be addressed in this constraints level of analysis include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources - Special Status Species and Wetlands
- Cultural Resources
- Hydrology and Water Resources
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise and Vibration
- Transportation and Circulation

The Consultant shall document the results of the screening analysis in an environmental screening technical report. The report will include a description of the resources present in the corridor, mapping of resources as appropriate on maps provided by the engineering team, a summary matrix of the impacts of the project alternatives, a discussion of CEQA and NEPA environmental compliance issues that can be anticipated, and a summary comparison of the alternatives.

*Task 6 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of Draft Environmental Screening Technical
Report
30 copies of Final Environmental Screening Technical
Report*

Task 7 – Prepare Functional Guidelines

To integrate local land-use and transportation policies and goals with the overall regional needs of the Connector project, the Consultant shall prepare functional guidelines for the project. The guidelines should outline a process for coordinating subsequent environmental studies, design and phasing of local transportation improvements within the corridor that will ensure that local

improvement projects will be designed and constructed in a manner that is consistent with the regional function of the proposed Connector project, as well as with implementation of the Preferred Blueprint Strategy for the SACOG region. The draft functional guidelines will be presented to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) for review and comment. Upon the receipt of comments from the PAC and SACOG staff, the Consultant shall prepare a final draft of the functional guidelines.

*Task 7 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of draft functional guidelines
30 copies of final functional guidelines*

Task 8 - Project Financial Plan

The Consultant shall prepare a Project Financial Plan which outlines a realistic strategy for implementing the project alternatives. Public and private funding options should be considered in developing the plan. The plan should also identify any appropriate phasing of corridor segments, and include a financial strategy for implementation of phased independent segments with the goal of providing a complete project corridor.

*Task 8 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of Draft Financial Plan
30 copies of Final Financial Plan*

Task 9 – Alternatives Evaluation

The purpose of this task is to evaluate the alternatives that resulted from the screening exercise performed in Task 3. The goal is to conduct an evaluation that would lead to the identification of those alternatives that are most likely to:

- Meet the purpose and need identified for the project
- Concurrently avoid or minimize environmental and community impacts
- Allow for effective and feasible project phasing and constructability
- Provide a cost-effective transportation investment.

The evaluation of alternatives should include a No-Build Alternative as well as a Least Environmentally Damaging Practical Alternative (LEDPA). In consultation with SACOG, the Consultant shall prepare a Draft Alternatives Report describing reasonable and feasible alternatives that are recommended for further evaluation as part of subsequent environmental and preliminary engineering studies. The report should include the analysis supporting the recommendation. The Consultant shall revise the report in accordance with comments and prepare a final version.

*Task 9 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of Draft Alternatives Report
30 copies of Final Alternatives Report*

Task 10 – Final Report

The Consultant shall summarize all key information and findings in a draft final report. The

report is to be distributed to the Policy Advisory Committee for their review and comments.

*Task 10 Deliverable Work Products: 10 copies of Draft Final Report
30 copies of Final Report*

Task 11 – Meetings and Presentations

The Consultant shall attend at least four (4) meetings of the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). The Consultant shall prepare presentation materials in order to present the following deliverables:

- draft purpose and need statement and project goals and objectives
- draft screening criteria
- draft functional guidelines
- draft alternatives evaluation

Presentation materials should be prepared in electronic Microsoft PowerPoint format with hard copy hand-outs.

The Consultant team project manager shall also attend at least twelve (12) coordination meetings with the SACOG Project Team to discuss project management and to review technical issues. Additional members of the consultant team shall attend meetings only with the prior approval of the SACOG project manager.

*Task 11 Deliverable Work Products: Two (2) electronic Microsoft PowerPoint presentations
30 hard copies of each presentation*