



Transportation Committee

February 26, 2015

CVR-SAFE Strategic Plan Schedule and Contract Extension

Issue: As the CVR-SAFE Strategic Plan is being completed, should the Transportation Committee recommend that the Capitol Valley Regional Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (CVR-SAFE) Board of Directors extend a contract with Castle Rock Associates?

Recommendation: That the Transportation Committee recommend that the CVR-SAFE Board approve an extension of the contract with Castle Rock Associates through September 30, 2015 with a not-to-exceed budget addition of \$250,000 from uncommitted CVR-SAFE revenues.

Discussion: The SACOG Board Directors also serves as the Board of Directors for the Capital Valley Region Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (CVR-SAFE). The CVR-SAFE is a multi-county authority which operates a motorist aid system of required call boxes on state routes, Freeway Service Patrols, a 511 motorist/traveler internet and telephone information system, and other services. The CVR-SAFE was authorized by state legislation and began in 1994 with four counties: Sacramento, San Joaquin, Yolo and Yuba. Sutter and El Dorado Counties became members in 1999. The CVR-SAFE is funded through a \$1.00 fee added to vehicle registration fees in the participating counties. Glenn County's SAFE and Placer County work with the CVR-SAFE on certain functions.

Staff has been working towards a strategic plan study that looks at the past and future of the CVR-SAFE. The Board directed staff to complete this planning effort considering fund balances, the changes in telephone and intelligent transportation system technologies, system modernization needs, and options for enhanced services that have developed since the call box system was first implemented. Staff will bring the draft strategic plan study to the Transportation Committee for discussion in April. Over the coming months, staff will also be bringing specific issues and recommendations from the strategic plan that will help guide this system into its third decade and a sustainable future. Near-term committee items will include plan recommendations that will provide guidance for the FY 2015/16 CVR-SAFE budget to be adopted by June.

A key recommended near-term action is to extend a contract with Castle Rock Associates that covers the maintenance and operations of the Sacramento region's 511 system and associated STARNET communications network. For this contract, the CVR-SAFE has previously provided funds to support the 511 motorist aid functions, as well as matching funds for recent improvements to the 511 system. In August 2014, the CVR-SAFE Board authorized extending the Castle Rock Associates contract until February 2015 and adding \$150,000 of uncommitted CVR-SAFE funds to cover the expanded maintenance and operations costs of the upgraded 511 system.

The CVR-SAFE's updated recommendation would authorize extending the Castle Rock Associates contract expiration date seven months later to September 30, 2015, with a total budget amount not to exceed \$250,000 in uncommitted CVR-SAFE funds for the extended contract.

Through this extension of the Castle Rock Associates contract, there will be adequate funding in place to assure 511 and STARNET operations and maintenance support while the CVR-SAFE Board reviews the strategic plan and options identified therein for the maintenance and operations of these systems over the longer term. Several options will be presented to the Board in the next few months for addressing longer term 511 system operations and maintenance needs, as part of the FY 2015/16 budget process.

Approved by:

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