

**Calaveras Council of Governments
 State Route 4, Wagon Trail Realignment
 Project Update Report**

Attachment 7b

Prepared by Scott Maas, Maas & Associates
 Current Report Date: April 3, 2006

SUMMARY

The most recent draft Cooperative Agreement between Caltrans and Calaveras COG has been sent to the Amador County Transportation Commission’s (ACTC) legal counsel for review. ACTC’s legal counsel has had much experience reviewing these types of documents. The review of this document is expected to be completed the first week in April and then forwarded to District 10 with recommended changes if any. Once the Co-Op is approved by both parties, then work can begin to hire a firm to start preliminary design and environmental documentation on the proposed roadway realignment project.

DISCUSSION

Calaveras COG has received three federal earmarks for the Wagon Trail Realignment project. These earmarks include \$320,610 of Public Lands Highway (PLH) for the 2005/06 fiscal year, \$1,000,000 High Priority Project funding and \$700,000 of PLH funding. Those projects funded under the High Priority Project (HPP) funding are only estimated to only receive 85% of the funding approved. Funding for Public Lands Highway earmark funds may also be funded at the 85% level. Additionally, the HPP funding is required to have a 20% match however Caltrans indicated they are looking into how to pay for the match on State Highway projects. Executive Director George Dondero has requested Caltrans pay the match requirement on the HPP funding. Additionally, COG Project Manager and ACTC Executive Director have requested that Caltrans pay the match. Caltrans District Director Kome Ajise said the match funds have to be State Only funds and those funds are limited.

The next critical item to be completed is approval of the Amended Cooperative Agreement. COG Project Manager has requested that the Amended Co-Op include the item that the State will pay the 20% matching funds to HPP earmark funds, however Caltrans cannot agree to this unless they know for sure the funds are available. This item may need to be deleted from the Amended Co-Op. The request for qualifications (RFQ) and the funding request known as the E76 form are being prepared.

The proposed schedule for PA&ED work is as follows:

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Current Project Schedule	Responsible Person	Date Scheduled	Date Completed
• CTC approves CCOG as lead agency	CCOG	6/26/03	6/26/03
• Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans accepted 12/03	J. Pinne	1/1/05	12/8/05
• 05/06 PLH Federal funds adopted into FTIP/FSTIP	G. Dondero	6/1/05	4/1/05
• Amend Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans	CCOG	5/8/06	
• Advertise for consultants to prepare PA&ED Phase I	S. Maas	6/15/06	
• Open proposals to begin preparation of PA&ED Phase I	CCOG	7/1/06	
• Award consulting firm to prepare PA&ED Phase I	CCOG	8/1/06	
• Begin preparation of PA&ED Phase I	S. Maas	8/15/06	