



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Community Development and Infrastructure

Subject: Advertise for Stetson Road PM 0.18 Storm Damage Repair Project

Meeting Date: March 11, 2025

Formal Title: Approve plans, specifications and engineer's estimate for the Stetson Road PM 0.18 Storm Damage Repair Project, set bid opening for 2:00 pm on April 11, 2025, and take related actions

Recommended Actions

1. Approve the plans, specifications, and engineer's estimate, and authorize call for bids for the Stetson Road PM 0.18 Storm Damage Repair Project;
2. Set bid opening for 2:00 p.m. on April 11, 2025;
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to advertise the Notice to Contractors for ten days beginning March 16, 2025, per the provisions of Public Contract Code Section 20392;
4. Authorize the Deputy CAO/Director of Community Development and Infrastructure to award and sign the contract with the qualified low bidder; and
5. Direct Community Development and Infrastructure to return on or before August 5, 2025, for ratification of the contract award.

Executive Summary

The Department of Community Development and Infrastructure has prepared the plans, specifications, and engineer's estimate for the Stetson Road PM 0.18 Storm Damage Repair Project, which aims to restore critical roadway infrastructure damaged during the March 2023 storms (FEMA Disaster No. 4699-DR-CA). This project involves the construction of a reinforced concrete crib wall and headwall, installation of a 48-inch culvert, roadway restoration, guardrail installation, drainage improvements, and erosion control measures. Board approval is requested to proceed with advertising the project for bids, setting the bid opening, and authorizing the Deputy CAO/Director of Community Development and Infrastructure to award and sign the contract with the qualified low bidder.

Discussion

Stetson Road, at Post Mile (PM) 0.18, sustained significant damage during the March 2023 storms, qualifying for an Emergency Relief Grant under the federally declared disaster, FEMA Disaster No. 4699-DR-CA. The damage incurred includes severe culvert failure, road pavement failure, subgrade failure, slope instability, and erosion, which have compromised road safety and reliability. Stetson is in an area of the Santa Cruz Mountains with very limited access and numerous homes. Further storm damage in this area could eliminate access to a significant number of our community. The road is currently closed.

Late last year, the Department of Community Development and Infrastructure was expeditiously coordinating an emergency construction contract with Gordan N. Ball, Inc. In addition, our staff was able to coordinate environmental clearances from Army Corps, Fish & Wildlife, and the State Water Board for emergency construction. However, due to seasonal weather concerns and its potential impacts to construction costs, schedule, and the environment during construction, it was decided that advertising the project for bids in the spring of 2025 would be a more acceptable alternative.

The Department of Community Development and Infrastructure has developed plans, specifications and a detailed estimate to restore the roadway to its pre-storm condition, ensuring reliable transportation access for the community and mitigating future risks from similar events.

Financial Impact

The engineer's estimate for this project is \$1,006,850. The estimated total cost of the project including design, engineering, right-of-way, environmental permits, construction management, contingencies, and department overhead is \$1,517,935. The GL account is 621223/62330.

This project will be financed by debt, future federal and state reimbursements, local county transportation funds and/or reductions in current transportation projects or operations. The current budget also includes \$950,000 available from \$1 million in Measure K funds set aside in General Fund Contingencies for emergency road projects this winter. If these funds are not needed for emergencies, they can be redirected to the Stetson Road project or other road projects. Financing for the project will be finalized with the ratification of the contract award.

Strategic Initiatives

The project directly supports the County's Strategic Plan elements:

3.A Reliable Transportation – Regional Mobility: Restoring safe and reliable access to the community by repairing storm-damaged infrastructure.

3.C Reliable Transportation – Local Roads: Strengthening roadway resilience to future storms while addressing current damage.

Submitted By:

Matt Machado, Deputy CAO / Director of Community Development and Infrastructure

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.