



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STATEMENT



October 20, 2020

File ID: 20-0225

TITLE

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA AND THE SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOUNDATION

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Council adopt the resolution.

SUMMARY

The San Diego State University Research Foundation (SDSURF) has coordinated with the City of Chula Vista ("City") Traffic Engineering Division to conduct research that develops a roadway safety technology to analyze captured imagery for potential "close call" or "near miss" incidents that can allow the City to identify intersections where it can proactively make safety improvements. The research covered in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) would involve installing camera and communications equipment on existing traffic signal poles and cabinets for a limited time at five signalized intersections in the City.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The Development Services Director has reviewed the proposed project for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 Class 6 (Information Collection), Section 15301 Class 1 (Existing Facilities), and Section 15303 class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) because the proposed project would not result in a significant effect on the environment, create a cumulative impact, damage a scenic highway, or cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Thus, no further environmental review is required.

DISCUSSION

As the City has prioritized facilitating the development and adoption of advanced transportation technologies, especially in the field of traffic safety, Traffic Engineering staff began engaging with SDSURF in recent years to discuss opportunities to facilitate or collaborate on research projects.

One such research opportunity that SDSURF received grant funding for will further develop image analysis algorithms using anonymized data to identify signalized intersection locations that may have a potentially higher risk of collisions. In theory, this would allow traffic engineers to proactively investigate and consider implementing safety related improvements to further reduce or prevent future collision from occurring. This would be achieved by evolving the algorithms to observe various aspects of the interactions of road users

that are occupying the same space at given times. Such technologies have been developed by some firms in the industry; however, thus far, they are relatively limited in the scope of time they monitor a location.

To facilitate this effort, the subject MOA would permit SDSURF to install camera and communications equipment at five City traffic signals for the duration of the research effort. At the conclusion of the research, the City and SDSURF will coordinate subsequent steps and the destination of the installed equipment.

DECISION-MAKER CONFLICT

Staff has reviewed the property holdings of the City Council members and has found that Councilmember McCann has real property holdings within 1,000 feet of the boundaries of the property which is the subject of this action. However, to the extent that any decision would have a reasonably foreseeable financial effect on the member's real property, the effect would be nominal, inconsequential, or insignificant. Consequently, pursuant to California Code of Regulations Title 2, sections 18700 and 18702(b), this item does not present a real property-related conflict of interest under the Political Reform Act (Cal. Gov't Code § 87100, et seq.).

Staff is not independently aware, and has not been informed by any City Council member, of any other fact that may constitute a basis for a decision-maker conflict of interest in this matter.

CURRENT-YEAR FISCAL IMPACT

This effort involves only nominal staff time and effort to coordinate and oversee the installation, operation, and eventual removal of the temporary camera and communications equipment. The costs of such efforts will be funded from existing projects that are part of the FY2020/21 Capital Improvement Program budget.

ONGOING FISCAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Memorandum of Agreement

Staff Contact: Paul Oberbauer, Senior Civil Engineer