

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL **DATE:** December 7, 2009
FROM: CITY MANAGER
SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING/LETTER OF AGREEMENT
APPROVAL FOR EAST COLORADO BOULEVARD PEDESTRIAN
ENHANCEMENTS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the project to be categorically exempt under Section 21084 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Article 19, Section 15301 (Class 1), subsection (c) of the Resources Agency of California Guidelines (minor alterations involving negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing) pursuant to the findings of the Secretary of the Resources Agency, and authorize the City Manager to execute and the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption for the project with the Los Angeles County Clerk; and
2. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Agreement (MOU/LOA) between the City and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements Project, Phase 1.

BACKGROUND:

The City applied for Federal funds during the 2007 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Call for Projects. The East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements Project, Phase I, was approved through the Call for Projects and funding was set aside pending approval of this Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Agreement.

improvement is designed to create a safe and attractive pedestrian environment along historic Colorado Boulevard. The proposed pedestrian lighting will be located within the public right-of-way along Colorado Boulevard from Catalina Avenue to Hill Avenue.

This project is consistent with the East Colorado Boulevard Specific Plan which was approved by the City Council on May 12, 2003. Included was the certification of the associated Environmental Impact Report. The East Colorado Boulevard Specific Plan specifies that the decorative, double-lamp, street light shall continue along Colorado Boulevard to the east City limit. A Federally Funded project constructed and installed the same decorative lights along a portion of Colorado Boulevard between Northup Avenue to Sycamore Avenue as part of the East Colorado Boulevard Specific Plan. The proposed street lighting will continue the distinctive appearance that identifies Colorado Boulevard as a historic east/west route.

Under the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this project is categorically exempt since the work consists of minor alterations involving negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing. Therefore, it is recommended that a Notice of Exemption be filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk.

FISCAL IMPACT:

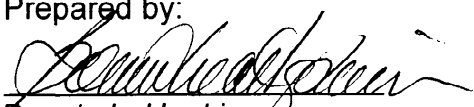
Approval of this Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Agreement will enable the City to obtain \$874,000 through the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to construct and complete this project. Adequate funds, consisting of Commercial Development Fees and Federal Funds, are available in Budget Account No. 73582 to cover the City's share of the project cost.

Respectfully submitted,



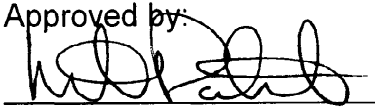
MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager

Prepared by:



Bonnie L. Hopkins
Principal Engineer

Approved by:



Martin Pastucha, Director
Department of Public Works