



AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Date: April 7, 2015

Agenda Item 9A

Approvals:

City Manager MM

Dept. Head WEC

Attorney MR

Finance JV

Department: Public Works / Engineering
Prepared By: Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer TB

Subject: *DESIGN OF ADDITIONAL BEACH TRAIL FENCING TO SUPPORT SAFETY/QUIET ZONE EFFORTS.*

Fiscal Impact: Yes. There is sufficient funding available in the existing Safety/Quiet Zone approved project budget to design additional beach trail fencing and prepare a project for public bidding. However, additional funding for construction may be needed depending on the final engineer's estimate and actual construction bids.

Summary: Staff requests City Council concurrence to prepare a design for additional fencing along the beach trail as discussed below.

Discussion: In August 2014, the City submitted a Petition for Waiver to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for exemptions to portions of the Federal Train Horn Rule to quiet train horns through the City. FRA staff have inspected the Beach Trail and existing railroad crossings and safety features, and the City's Petition is awaiting formal action by the FRA's Rail Safety Board. The City has not received confirmation of when that hearing will occur. During their review of the Beach Trail and railroad safety features, FRA staff noted the absence of safety fencing along several sections of the Beach Trail primarily south of the T-Street at-grade crossing. It is City staff's opinion that if the FRA is inclined to grant a waiver to the City, it will likely require that additional fencing be added.

In anticipation of a potential condition by FRA to add more fencing along the Beach Trail, staff recommends City Council direction to move forward to design the additional fencing and prepare plans and specifications for eventual public bidding. To do so staff recommends executing a Professional Services Agreement with BGB Design Group, who designed the existing beach trail and is currently under contract with the City to design the southern beach trail extension. The cost for this Agreement is \$22,250, which the City Manager would execute if the City Council provides direction to begin this design work. There is sufficient funding available in the existing Safety/Quiet Zone approved project budget for this expense. Staff would prepare the required environmental documentation, costs for which would also be charged to the existing Safety/Quiet Zone project budget. Moving forward now to prepare the design, public bid package and environmental documentation would position the City to move quickly to implement improvements anticipated to be required by FRA to support a waiver of train horn rules. After final accounting of the existing City-OCTA cooperative agreement for recent Safety/Quiet Zone improvements, there will be funds available to partially fund construction of additional trail fencing. However, the amount of

supplemental funding needed will depend on the engineer's final estimate and actual construction bids. At this time staff is seeking direction to move forward with design only. At the conclusion of the design staff would request Council direction to proceed with construction, and would discuss funding requirements and recommendations at that time.

Recommended

Action: STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT the City Council:

1. Direct staff to begin design and permitting of additional fencing along the Beach Trail; and
2. Direct the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with BGB Design Group not to exceed \$22,250 for design of additional beach trail fencing.

Attachment: None.

Notification: None.

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