

CVAG Chronicle

October 2009

HOT TOPIC: IT'S A GO FOR THE INTERCHANGE PROJECTS!

By Allyn Waggle



Two Coachella Valley Interstate 10 interchange projects held bid openings in October. Bids for the Ramon Road/ Bob Hope Drive interchange project were opened on October 8th. The Engineer's Estimate for this project was \$40,602,000. The apparent low bid was submitted by Sema Construction of Lake Forest, California, in the amount of \$22,428,651, a difference of \$18 Million! Six other bids were under \$24 Million! Caltrans is the project administrator for this project and will complete the bid review process and issue a notice of award shortly. Construction of this important interchange project is scheduled to begin in January, 2010.

The Palm Drive/ Gene Autry Trail interchange bid opening was held on October 14th. This bid opening combined the Interstate 10 interchange project with the adjacent Union Pacific railroad bridge widening project and the connecting portion of Gene Autry Trail together as one package. The Engineer's Estimate for this combined project was \$33,474,000. The lowest bid received was in the amount of \$16,950,868.00. The interchange project was bid at \$13,409,581.80. The interconnecting roadway and the railroad bridge project was bid at \$3,541,286.20. The apparent low bidder on this project is Skanska USA Civil West. Seven of the bids on this combined project were under \$20 Million.



Riverside County is the project administrator and will complete the bid review process.

Both the contractors submitting the apparent low bids on these projects are well established and have good reputations for performance. Watch for news on a combined ground breaking event early next year. It will include notable invitees and should draw substantial attention!

These two interchange projects are the first wave of the Coachella Valley Corridor Improvement Program now being undertaken. The next interchange project scheduled for construction is the Indian Avenue interchange. The current schedule calls for this interchange project to receive all formal approvals by the end of this year. Bidding will occur in the early Spring, 2010, and construction should begin by early Summer.



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HOT TOPIC: IT'S A GO FOR THE INTERCHANGE PROJECTS!

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CVAG Department Heads

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Community
Resources

Katie Barrows
Energy
&
Environment

Jim Sullivan
GIS Program
Director

Toni Eggebraaten
General Counsel

Following the Indian Avenue interchange will be the Date Palm Drive interchange. The schedule for this project calls for final approval to occur in mid-Summer, 2010, and construction to begin in early- to mid-Winter. With this schedule, there will likely be four Interstate 10 interchange projects under construction at one time in the next year or so!

The final interchange project in the Coachella Valley Corridor Improvement Program is the Jefferson Street interchange. This project is further out in the schedule, encountering environmental mitigation issues, with final project approval now expected in mid-2011, and construction in early-2012.



PLANNING FOR FUTURE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The success in getting these important projects to the construction phase is worthy of pride in accomplishment. But the Coachella Valley jurisdictions are not resting on their laurels. The Executive Committee has approved award of a contract to KOA Corporation (formerly Katz, Okitsu & Associates) to provide the 2009 update to CVAG's Transportation Project Prioritization Study, referred to as the TPPS. The TPPS is a process to prioritize the valley's regional arterial road projects into a logical order of construction.



This process assists the CVAG Executive Committee in making funding decisions, and provides an important tool to be used in the development of a long range Financial Plan and Expenditure Program. The last update of the TPPS was completed in 2005.

In order for a regional road segment to be considered for CVAG funding, a roadway segment must have met three of the five qualifying criteria. Once a roadway segment is determined qualified for regional funding, the order of priority is then determined by applying evaluation criteria. Each project is subject to six levels of further assessment. The assessment is both objective and subjective and ranging from lowest conformance, deriving zero priority points, to the highest conformance, deriving five priority points. In addition the TPPS provides for bonus points for having a construction cost of less than one million dollars, or an accident rating in the top ten percent. The TPPS identifies factors which, over time, may alter recommended priorities, and develops a continuous monitoring program which allows CVAG to address changing conditions over time. The entire process is designed to be objective and totally apolitical.

The 2009 update of the TPPS should be completed early next year.

- Allyn Waggle



Executive Committee Meeting October 26, 2009

ACTION TAKEN

- Approved the contract with Jewish Family Service of San Diego for the operation of Roy's Desert Resource Center with the Technical Advisory Committee's recommended change; authorized the Executive Director to amend the contract amount as additional funding becomes available; and authorized the Executive Director to accept a portion of the County's newly allocated one time contribution of \$750,000 for direct purchase of additional start up items and/or for reimbursement of the contractor for the purchase of additional start up items.
- Endorsed the Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance for adoption by member agencies to meet the requirements of the Water Conservation in Landscaping Act (AB 1881).
- Approved a regional grant application to the California Energy Commission to support a regional energy efficiency program in coordination with CVAG member agencies.
- Approved Award of a Sole Source Agreement with Carl Schiermeyer to Complete the 2009 Update of the Coachella Valley Passenger Rail Study in the amount of \$13,000.
- Approved the Contract with KOA Corporation for the TPPS, RACE and TUMF Nexus Studies.
- Approved the Contract with Newport Traffic Studies for the 2010 and 2011 Winter Traffic Count Program.
- Approved an Agreement with the City of Cathedral City to Provide 75% of the Local Share of Costs for a Highway Bridge Program Grant for the Cathedral Canyon Bridge Project, in the amount of \$1,895,820, as the CVAG Regional Share of the project costs.
- Approved the CVAG Policy No. 09-02 to include the addition of Audio Recording Retention and Oath of Office Retention.
- Approved the Standard Format of Pre-Payment Agreement for Jurisdictions' Local Share Responsibility for Interstate 10 Interchange Projects.



The CVAG Offices will
be open on
Veterans' Day,
November 11, 2009

UPCOMING CVAG MEETINGS NOVEMBER 2009

Executive Committee

*December 7 at 6:00 p.m. (Suite 119)

Technical Advisory Committee

November 13 at 10:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

Transportation Committee

November 9 at 12:00 noon (Suite 119)

Transportation Technical Advisory Subcommittee

November 23 at 12:00 p.m. (Suite 119)

Energy & Environmental Resources Committee

November 12 at 12:00 noon (Suite 119)

Coachella Valley Conservation Commission

November 12 at 11:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

Energy & Water Conservation Subcommittee

January 21, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

AB939 Solid Waste & Recycling Technical Working Group

November 9 at 3:00 p.m. (Suite 119)

Public Safety Committee

November 9 at 10:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

Homelessness Committee

November 18 at 10:00 a.m. (Suite 119)

Human & Community Resources Committee

November 18 at 12:00 noon (Suite 119)

* Date changed due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.



CVAG will be closed on November 26 and 27 due
to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

CVAG's Executive Committee comprises 30 members. Voting members (17) are Riverside County supervisors, mayors and chairs of CVAG cities and tribes or their designees. Nonvoting members (13) are county, city and tribal managers.



Executive Committee Roster

Mayor Stephen Pougnet, City of Palm Springs
CVAG CHAIR

Mayor Yvonne Parks, City of Desert Hot Springs
CVAG VICE CHAIR

Vice Mayor Beverly Mays, City of Blythe

Mayor Kathy DeRosa, City of Cathedral City

Mayor Eduardo Garcia, City of Coachella

Mayor Larry Spicer, City of Indian Wells

Councilmember Ben Godfrey, City of Indio

Mayor Don Adolph, City of La Quinta

Mayor Robert Spiegel, City of Palm Desert

Mayor Gordon Moller, City of Rancho Mirage

Supervisor Marion Ashley, Supervisor Bob Buster,

Supervisor John Tavaglione, and Supervisor Jeff Stone, County of Riverside

Tribal Chair Richard Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

2nd Tribal Vice Chair David Roosevelt, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians



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