



Town of Moraga	Agenda Item
CONSENT	6.5

Meeting Date: December 13, 2023

TOWN OF MORAGA

STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

**From: Shawn Knapp, Public Works Director / Town Engineer
Yao Miao, Assistant Engineer**

Subject: Fifth Amendment with Harris and Associates to Revise the Scope of Services to Remove the Moraga Road Traffic Safety Study and Approve a Proposed Professional Services Agreement for Traffic Engineering Consultant Services to Parametrix, Inc (Berkeley, CA) for the Moraga Road Traffic Safety Study for an Amount not to exceed \$38,190.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Town Council Approve a Fifth Amendment with Harris and Associates to Revise the Scope of Services to Remove the Moraga Road Traffic Safety Study ("Study") and award a Professional Services Agreement for Traffic Engineering Consultant Services to Parametrix, Inc. (Berkeley, CA) for the Study in an Amount to Not Exceed \$38,190, approving \$3,819 for 10% contingency for the Study and \$7,638 for Administrative services; authorizing the Town Manager to Execute the Fifth Amendment with Harris & Associates and the Agreement with Parametrix and any Amendments with Parametrix, if necessary; and finding the actions Categorically Exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15306.

Background

Corte Santa Clara Court Traffic Safety Concerns

Moraga Road is a major arterial road connecting Moraga residents, businesses, and Saint Mary's College students/faculty with Lafayette to State Highway 24. Corte Santa Clara Court (Court) off Moraga Road is near Campolindo High School. Corte Santa Clara Court residents have expressed traffic safety concerns exiting their court onto Moraga Road and asked the Town to provide improvements. Residents who live in the Court feel trapped at times by vehicle backup on Moraga Road from Campolindo High and other school congestion, along with commuter traffic, as there is no Moraga Road "KEEP CLEAR" zone in front of the Court. The existing Moraga Road pavement width is not sufficient to add a dedicated center turn lane for the Court ingress and egress.

Additionally, the Court has sight distance obstructions from trees and a sloping hillside on Moraga Road, raising more concerns for residents.

The area around Campolindo High School has extensive short-term traffic congestion during school drop-off and pick-up hours. The Moraga Road high-visibility push-button activated flashing beacon crosswalk at Woodford Drive can exacerbate traffic congestion when pedestrian crossings are significant. The operation of the flashing beacon is not coordinated with adjacent traffic signals, and the flashing beacon essentially becomes a continuous red light.

Harris & Associates (Harris), under their Professional Service Agreement, was tasked with designing three “Worst First Street” pavement rehabilitation projects. A small traffic safety study analyzing the Court’s access to Moraga Road was initially authorized under Harris’s Fourth Amendment Agreement. Harris’s sub-consultant, Parametrix, Inc., formally known as Parisi Transportation Consulting, was tasked to deliver the Moraga Road Traffic Safety study.

To achieve efficiencies and save costs, Town staff has discussed with Harris & Associates contracting directly with Parametrix, Inc. for the Study. This would require a further amendment to the Harris & Associates Agreement to eliminate the Study from the scope of services in that agreement and enter into a new professional services agreement with Parametrix.

Livable Moraga Road

The Town’s Livable Moraga Road (LMR) is a transportation planning project to provide the future multimodal, complete street vision for a two-mile-long portion of Moraga Road between Campolindo Drive and St. Mary’s Road. This project will provide a “road map” for the future locations of continuous bicycle and pedestrian facilities, safe routes to school, transit, and vehicle safety improvements, along with the desired streetscape improvements, based on community input and Council direction.

The primary subdivision access to the planned Palos Colorados development is off the eastern side of Moraga Road between the Town’s Via Granada and Corte Santa Clara Court. The only section of Moraga Road excluded from the LMR Study is from the Town limits to Campolindo Drive. This segment of Moraga Road has likely been excluded from the LMR project, as the Palos Colorados land developer is required to complete a traffic impact study for Moraga Road at their subdivision’s primary entrance as part of the subdivision process.

Discussion

Proposed Moraga Road Enhanced Traffic Safety Analysis Study

The planned Palos Colorados development is a 123-unit residential subdivision, which potentially will bring more traffic burden to Moraga Road in the future. In order to better understand Palos Colorados future traffic impacts, staff is recommending including the projected development’s vehicle counts within Moraga Road Traffic Safety studies.

In July 2023, the Town Council requested expanding the study scope to also cover traffic safety, calming, and congestion analysis from impacts of the Campolindo High School drop off and pick up circulation patterns and the future Palos Colorados neighborhood traffic to improve Moraga Road vehicle, cyclist, and pedestrian access between Via Granada/Sky Hy Drive and Woodford Drive.

As mentioned above, Harris's Fourth Amendment Agreement for the "worst streets first" engineering design included a traffic safety study for residential access improvements at the Corte Santa Clara Court. Parametrix, on October 1, 2023, provided a revised technical proposal (Attachment C) for an enhanced Study, including safety, congestion, and calming alternatives within an enlarged project limits from Via Granada/Sky Hy Drive to Woodford Drive. The traffic safety study is proposed to be completed by April 8, 2024.

The proposed scope of design work includes the development of design options for conceptual traffic safety plans, circulation modifications, and cost estimates for each recommended work item. The construction work is not included and will require additional funding.

Parametrix has assembled a team of experienced public outreach, traffic engineers, and civil engineers to assist the Town with this Project. Parametrix's key staff include David Parisi, PE, TE, as Principal-in-Charge, Andrew Lee, PE, TE, as Project Manager, and Ronny Kraft, as Transportation Planner. David has 30 years of experience with various aspects of transportation and environmental planning and civil and traffic engineering. Andrew has 16 years of experience in transportation and traffic engineering. Ronny is an experienced consultant specializing in transportation planning, mobility management, GIS analysis, and cartographic design.

Based on Parametrix's technical proposal and a traffic safety site visit, Parametrix appears to have the necessary knowledge and experience to provide project management, public engagement/outreach, traffic engineering, and alternative design services to deliver a project to meet the Town's expectations. Therefore, the Town Engineer recommends contracting directly with Parametrix as they are a qualified and experienced firm that can provide professional traffic engineering consulting services for the project. Parametrix's enhanced scope of services and cost proposal (Attachment C) in the amount of \$38,910. The Town Engineer has determined that the negotiated technical and cost proposals are complete and acceptable.

CEQA

Study and Design work are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to 14 CCR § 15306 as a preliminary study and other resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and are used strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. However, as part of the services, CEQA analysis for the construction of the project, should it proceed, will be conducted.

Fiscal Impact

By contracting directly with Parametrix, the Town would save the traditional 10 to 15 percent management costs that Harris & Associates would impose for the sub-consultant under their contract.

The Minor Traffic Safety Program (CIP 23-404) already includes a \$50,000 budget funded from Fund 210 (Measure J). This is sufficient to cover Parametrix's \$38,190 cost proposal for the proposed traffic safety study services, which will be conducted under the Minor Traffic Safety Program (CIP 23-404), and the 10% contingency (\$3,819) for the traffic safety study, and \$7,638 for administrative services.

As a result, there is no need to amend the FY 2023-2024 Town Budget for the project.

Reviewed by Lisa Malek-Zadeh, Interim Administrative Services Director.

Alternatives

1. Adopt Resolution ____ - 2023; or
2. Adopt the Resolution ____ - 2023 with modifications; or
3. Not adopt Resolution ____ - 2023 and provide direction to staff.

Report reviewed by: Scott Mitnick, Town Manager
Denise Bazzano, Assistant Town Attorney

Attachments:

- A.** Resolution ____ - 2023 Approving a Fifth Amendment to a Professional Service Agreement with Harris & Associates to Revise the Scope of Services to Remove the Moraga Road Traffic Safety Study and Approving a Professional Services Agreement for Traffic Engineering Consultant Services to Parametrix, Inc (Berkeley, CA) for the Moraga Road Traffic Safety Study in an Amount to Not Exceed \$38,190; approving \$3,819 for a 10% contingency for the Traffic Study and \$7,638 for Administrative services; and authorizing the Town Manager to Execute the Fifth Amendment with Harris & Associates and the Agreement with Parametrix and any Contract Amendments with Parametrix, if necessary; and finding the actions Categorically Exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15306
- B.** Fifth Amendment to Professional Services Agreement with Harris & Associates
- C.** Professional Services Agreement Sample to Parametrix
- D.** Parametrix's Scope and Cost Proposal
- E.** Parametrix's Proposed Project Schedule
- F.** Parametrix's Staff Resumes
- G.** Parametrix's Moraga Road Traffic Study Overview Map
- H.** Photos of Existing Traffic Conditions on Moraga Road