



City Council Report

Date: October 5, 2020
To: City Council
Through: Kari Kent, Assistant City Manager
From: Beth Huning, City Engineer
Marc Ahlstrom, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: **Signal Butte Road – Williams Field to Pecos**
City Project No. CP0729
Council District 6

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to request Council approval for execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Maricopa County Department of Transportation (County) for County assistance should the use of eminent domain for acquisition of Right-of-Way (ROW) or easements related to the construction of Signal Butte Road between Williams Field and Pecos be required for the parcels located in the County.

Staff recommends that Council authorize the City Manager to execute this IGA on behalf of the City.

Background

The purpose of this project is to construct a new 2 mile section of Signal Butte Road, between Williams Field Road and Germann Road, tying into the Arizona Department of Transportation's (ADOT) extension of State Route 24 (SR 24). The new roadway will improve connectivity and traffic flow and promote development in southeast Mesa. (See Exhibit "A" for the project location.)

As part of the process, new ROW, drainage easements, and temporary construction easements will be required to complete the construction. Four parcels are located with the County and will require assistance for eminent domain should that be necessary. These parcels are:

- 304-36-003 Horne Real Estate
- 304-34-024D Cindy Stringham
- 304-34-024C Dan & Terry Ferguson
- 304-34-023A Terence Schmidt

Discussion

The purpose of this IGA is to document and clarify the actions and responsibilities to be taken by the City and County for real estate acquisition for the Signal Butte Road project.

The City will act as the lead agency for real estate acquisition, The County will assist with the use of eminent domain for acquisition on any parcels located within the County's jurisdiction in the event the City is unable to reach an agreement with the property owners through the normal Real Estate negotiation process. The County has agreed to follow all State and Federal requirements for the Real Estate process to ensure that the project maintains its compliance to achieve federal funding.

Community Impact – Construction of Signal Butte Road between Williams Field and Pecos will provide a connection to the SR24 Freeway and an opportunity for future growth and development in SE Mesa.

Alternatives

The City Council could choose not to enter into this IGA. This is not recommended as this would delay the real estate acquisition process if the use of eminent domain is required and delay the construction of Signal Butte Road. The City of Mesa has commitments to ADOT and the Town of Queen Creek to construct this section of roadway in conjunction with the SR24.

Fiscal Impact

The City shall be responsible to pay for County staff time, appraisals, and for the ROW and Easements needed to complete the project scope.

Coordinated With

This agreement has been coordinated with the City Attorney's office, the Engineering Department, and Maricopa County.