



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 6/13/2023

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File #: 23-733

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Public Works

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**SUBJECT:**

Storm Damage Repairs on Alderpoint Road (6B165) at Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the attached plans and specifications for the Storm Damage Repairs on Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 project;
2. Find that the project is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15302 - "Replacement or Reconstruction" and 15269(a) - "Emergency Projects"; and
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to advertise the above-mentioned project as required by Section 22037 of the California Public Contract Code, with bids to be opened on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Road Fund (1200), Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Storm Damage Funds

**DISCUSSION:**

On March 7, 2017, the Governor of the State of California declared a disaster for Humboldt County due to severe winter storms, flooding, and mudslides. Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 in the Garberville area of southern Humboldt County, experienced roadway settlement and shoulder failure. Emergency temporary repairs were done at the time of the disaster to maintain essential traffic flows.

On Oct. 4, 2022, the Humboldt County Department of Public Works ("Public Works") received Federal Highway Administration funding approval to proceed with the Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 Storm Damage Repair Project. Public Works and Mark Thomas and Company subsequently prepared the attached plans and specifications for the project based on topographic surveys of the damaged areas prepared by Points West Surveying Company and geotechnical studies

prepared by Crawford and Associates. The work proposed in the attached plans and specifications consists of constructing reinforced embankment, installing sub-drainage and storm drainage systems, restoring the roadway to the original width and adding sediment and erosion control items.

**CEQA Analysis:**

This project consists of the replacement and reconstruction of existing road infrastructure in the same location as it existed prior to being damaged. The project has substantially the same purpose and capacity as the prior infrastructure. Such work is considered exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15302. This exemption applies to projects that are the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

Additionally, the facilities being replaced and reconstructed suffered damage within the scope of the disaster declaration made by the Governor on Jan. 3, 2017. Such emergency work is considered exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15269(a). This exemption applies to projects that maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code. This includes projects that will remove, destroy, or significantly alter an historical resource when that resource represents an imminent threat to the public of bodily harm or of damage to adjacent property or when the project has received a determination by the State Office of Historic Preservation pursuant to Section 5028(b) of Public Resources Code.

Accordingly, Public Works recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the attached plans and specifications; find that the project is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 and 15302 of the CEQA Guidelines; and advertise the Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 Storm Damage Repair Project.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>FY22-23 Adopted</b>	<b>FY23-24 *</b>	<b>FY24-25 *</b>
Engineer’s Cost of Contract Items	\$0.00	\$4,457,923.50	\$1,485,974.50
Contingencies (5%)	\$0.00	\$222,900.00	\$74,300.00
Construction Engineering (15%)	\$10,000.00	\$658,7000.00	\$212,900.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,339,523.50</b>	<b>\$1,773,174.50</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>FY22-23 Adopted</b>	<b>FY23-24 *</b>	<b>FY24-25 *</b>
General Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
State/Federal Funds 88.53%	\$8,853.00	\$4,727,080.15	\$1,569,791.38
Road Fund (1200) 11.47%	\$1,147.00	\$612,443.35	\$203,383.12
<b>Total Funding Sources</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,339,523.50</b>	<b>\$1,773,174.50</b>

*\*Projected amounts are estimates and are subject to change.*

**Narrative Explanation of Financial Impact:**

There is no financial commitment until the Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 Storm Damage Repair Project is awarded. This project is being funded by Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Funds (88.53%) and the Humboldt County Road Fund (11.47%). The engineer's cost estimate for the project is \$5,943,898.00. The Humboldt County Road Fund will be responsible for \$816,973.46 of the costs associated with the Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 Storm Damage Repair Project.

Expenditure appropriations related to completion of the Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 Storm Damage Repair Project are included in the approved fiscal year 2022-23 and the proposed 2023-24 budget for Road-Engineering budget unit 1200-321.

The fiscal year 2021-2022 Annual Road Report, completed by the State of California, reflected an estimated negative fund balance of \$8,800,000 in the County of Humboldt's Road Fund. Even after allocating nearly \$6,800,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to the Road Fund in order to reduce the negative fund balance, the current estimated fund balance remains negative by approximately \$9,300,000.

This negative balance is partially due to the timing of Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursements to the County of Humboldt, which can take years for the County of Humboldt to receive repayment. The current total of outstanding repayments is approximately \$11,500,000. Public Works utilizes other state and local funding, such as Regional Surface Transportation Program funds, for the Humboldt County Road Fund match for reimbursable projects. Despite those additional funding sources, Road Fund projects are underfunded and will very likely have a negative impact on the General Fund if additional revenue sources are not secured.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

There is no impact to current staffing levels related to the advertisement of the Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98 Storm Damage Project.

**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:**

This action supports your Board's Strategic Framework priority of providing for and maintaining infrastructure.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

California Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

**ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Not approve the project; however, staff does not recommend this alternative since the project will restore the roadway to pre-disaster conditions using funds that would not otherwise be available to the County of Humboldt.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Plans for Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98
2. Special Provisions for Alderpoint Road (6B165) Post Miles 2.10, 2.70 and 2.98
3. Notice of Exemption for Alderpoint Road

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A