



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 8/16/2022

File #: 22-1054

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Public Works

Agenda Section: Departmental

SUBJECT:

Authorization to Negotiate Terms to Purchase Property for Humboldt County Welcome Center

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize the Public Works Director, and designees thereof, to negotiate terms for the purchase of real property in Cooks Valley with its current owner, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and duly authorized agents thereof, for the purposes of developing a Humboldt County Welcome Center.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General Fund (1100)

DISCUSSION:

The Economic Development Division, Supervisor Bushnell, and the Department of Public Works (County) have been collaborating in discussions regarding the benefits of the county having a Welcome Center near the southern entrance to Humboldt County adjacent to Highway 101. The County has met with Caltrans to explore the possibility of Caltrans surplusing property in Cooks Valley, as shown in Attachment 1, to give the county the ability to obtain the property. The property would need to go through the state approved legal process and the county would have the ability to attempt to purchase the property before it is released for public bid. The property currently has no APN as it is excess road right of way owned by the State.

Caltrans has indicated that they are willing to move forward with the surplus property process. The Economic Development Division and the Department of Public Works are requesting the Board authorize staff to work with Caltrans through the surplus process and to negotiate for the purchase of the property for the purpose of developing a Humboldt County Welcome Center in Southern Humboldt County.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The costs associated with the surplus and purchase of this property are unknown at this time without

further negotiations. Once the costs associated is established, an agenda item will be brought back to the Board for consideration of funding to include final price and terms of payment.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

This action supports your Board's Strategic Framework by providing for and maintaining infrastructure and providing community-appropriate levels of service.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

County Administrative Office - Economic Development Division

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Your Board could choose to not authorize the Public Works Director, and designees thereof to negotiate terms to purchase the subject property. This is not recommended as it will not further the possibility of developing a Welcome Center in Southern Humboldt.

ATTACHMENTS:

Site Location Map

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A