



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 6/7/2022

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File #: 22-678

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Public Works

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**SUBJECT:**

Storm Damage Repair to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the attached plans and specifications for the Storm Damage Repair to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 Project;
2. 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 12, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.;
3. Authorize the Humboldt County Public Works Director to award the above-mentioned project to the lowest responsive bidder following completion of the bidding process; and
4. Authorize the Humboldt County Public Works Director to execute a project agreement with the lowest responsive bidder upon submittal of the appropriate bonds and insurance.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Road Fund (1200); Federal Emergency Management Agency, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

**DISCUSSION:**

On Feb. 14, 2017, the Federal Emergency Management Agency declared a disaster for Humboldt County due to severe winter storms, flooding, and mudslides. Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 located near the community of Honeydew in the southern area of Humboldt County, experienced moderate roadway failure due to the heavy rainfall. Additionally, heavy rains from another federally declared disaster on Feb. 24, 2019, caused a very large roadway failure that completely shut off access for residents beyond Post Mile 0.50. An emergency temporary detour was constructed utilizing private roads and driveways to maintain essential traffic flows for residents living in Panther Gap. Panther Gap Road is currently closed at Post Mile 0.50.

On April 12, 2021, the Humboldt County Department of Public Works ("Public Works") received approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to proceed with the Storm Damage Repair to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 Project.

On Jan. 4, 2022, the Board of Supervisor approved the Panther Gap Post Mile 0.50 Tree Clearing Project. The tree clearing portion of the project was completed on May 4, 2022, which was done during the early part of year so as to minimize impacts to the environment and avoid delays to the construction project. Public Works and GHD prepared the attached plans and specifications based on surveys by Points West Surveying Company and geotechnical studies by Crawford and Associates. The work proposed in the attached plans and specifications consists of preparation of a storm water pollution prevention plan, excavation for new roadway, disposal of excess excavation materials, installing drainage systems and geogrid reinforcement, construction of gravel roadway, and installation erosion and sediment control measures. The construction project will restore local traffic on Panther Gap Road.

The construction of Storm Damage Repairs to Panther Gap Road at Post Mile 0.5 must be completed before the rainy season which typically starts in October/November. Due to this constraint, Public Works recommends that the Board approve the attached plans and specifications and authorize the Public Works Director to award the Storm Damage Repairs to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Project to, and execute the project agreement with, the lowest responsive bidder following completion of the bidding process and submittal of the appropriate bonds and insurance.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial commitment until the Storm Damage Repairs to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 Project is awarded. This project is being funded by Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Funds (75%), California Governor's Office of Emergency Services fund (18.75%) and the Humboldt County Road Fund (6.25%). The engineer's cost estimate for the project is \$4,895,255. The Humboldt County Road Fund will be responsible for \$305,953 of the costs associated with the Storm Damage Repairs to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 Project.

Expenditure appropriations related to completion of the Storm Damage Repairs to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 Project have been included in the approved fiscal year (FY) 2021-22 and the proposed 2022-23 budgets for Road-Engineering budget unit 1200-321.

Projects are paid in arrears with anticipated funding coming through Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Funds (FEMA) and California Governor's Office of Emergency Services as mentioned above. The FY 2020-21 annual Road Report, completed by the State of California, reflected an estimated negative fund balance of \$5.9 million. This is due to the timing of when FEMA reimburses the county. It can take years for the county to receive repayment of the 75% FEMA match. The department utilizes other state and local funding, such as the Regional Surface Transportation Program funds, for the 25% match for FEMA projects.

**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:**

The recommended actions support the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Framework by providing for and maintaining infrastructure.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

Federal Emergency Management Agency, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services,  
California State Parks

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board of Supervisors may choose not to approve the attached plans and specifications for the Storm Damage Repairs to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 Project. However, this alternative is not recommended because the project will restore public access and eliminate the need for the temporary detour using funds that would not otherwise be available to the County of Humboldt.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Plans and Specifications for the Storm Damage Repairs to Panther Gap Road (4D010) Post Mile 0.50 Project, Project No. FEMA 4301-CA-DR PW-909; Contract No. 217387

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: C-12; D-22

Meeting of: March 5, 2019; Jan. 4, 2022

File No.: 19-157; 21-1792