

STAFF REPORT – STUDY SESSION

DATE: April 1, 2010
TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Paul Goble, P.E., T.E.
Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Highway 111 – Maintenance & Beautification

Summary

The Highway 111 Beautification and Widening Project has been delayed as a result of funding limitations within the City of Indian Wells Redevelopment Agency (RDA). Alternative funding sources have been explored including, but not limited to, Federal TIGER Grants, alternative Federal earmark requests and CalTrans Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) monies.

A rescoped Phase 2 of the Highway 111 Widening/Beautification project is proposed. A Highway 111 asphalt overlay from western City limit to eastern City limit is recommended for completion during the summer of 2011. The Phase 2 project would also include new medians and high priority signal reconfigurations at Miles Avenue and Eldorado Drive. The Highway 111 signal at Miles would be configured with a dual left eastbound turn to northbound Miles with a right turn overlap from southbound Miles to westbound Highway 111. The Highway 111 signal at Eldorado would be reconfigured for protected left turn movements from Eldorado northbound and southbound to Highway 111.

The subsequent Phase 3 of the Highway 111 Widening/Beautification project would be prioritized by widening of the western City limit to Cook Street. This area is of highest congestion and operates with a low efficiency, split phase signal.

Deferral of the substantial portion of Highway 111 widening is recommended. Staff has optimized the timing on Highway 111 to achieve acceptable Level of Service C or better for peak season traffic levels which exceed 50,000 vehicles per day.

Project as Originally Conceived

The Highway 111 Beautification Project was conceived as a part of a valley-wide programmatic approach to improving safety and traffic flow throughout the Coachella Valley. In the City of Indian Wells, Highway 111 was to be widened to six lanes to match the incoming lanes from La Quinta and Palm Desert. Construction would occur from the western City limit at Hospitality Lane to the eastern City limit at the Deep

Canyon Bridge. New signals would be installed, new median islands would be constructed and landscaped, and sound walls constructed adjacent to certain residential communities.

The Highway 111 Widening Project was conceived to improve the safety of drivers and pedestrians in the City of Indian Wells, improve traffic circulation, reducing delays and CO2 emissions in the Coachella Valley. In addition, the new and improved sound walls would reduce traffic noise while the City's investment in landscaping improvements would further enhance the beauty of the City.

A three phase approach was recommended to segment construction of Highway 111 over 3 years to minimize impacts to residents, ensure a high-level of safety during construction and provide adequate funding at appropriate times.

Funding Changes

The Highway 111 Beautification and Widening Project has been delayed as a result of funding limitations with the City of Indian Wells Redevelopment Agency (RDA). The RDA was originally to pay \$17,793,750 with additional costs paid by developer impact fees. State of California RDA funding takeaways and restrictions have indefinitely delayed the project. The Highway 111 Beautification and Widening Project total cost for all phases of construction was previously estimated to equal \$58,665,000. The Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) would pay for 75% of the eligible cost, excluding landscaping.

Alternative funding sources have been explored including, but not limited to, Federal TIGER Grants, alternative Federal earmark requests and CalTrans Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) monies. Large multi-million dollar grants are not anticipated at this time but pending Federal and CalTrans (HSIP) requests could contribute up to \$1,000,000 per request for the Highway 111 project.

The Highway 111 Beautification and Widening Project recently received Project ID numbers (March 16, 2010) to assist in qualification for CalTrans and Federal grant funding. CalTrans District 8 assigned project number STPL-5401(005) for the portion of Highway 111 between Eldorado Drive and the eastern City limit. CalTrans District 8 assigned project number STPL-5401(006) for the portion of Highway 111 between the western City limit and Eldorado Drive.

Staff recommends scheduling the rescoped Phase 2 of the Highway 111 Widening/Beautification project for summer 2011 to allow the City sufficient time to full explore the aforementioned funding opportunities prior to project initiation.

Highway 111 Road Surface Condition

Highway 111 was resurfaced approximately 15 years ago and requires interim maintenance to avoid increasingly significant deterioration and rehabilitation costs over the next few years. A 20 year design life span is typical for high volume, asphalt pavement, arterial roadways. A Highway 111 Pavement Management Program Report in 2006 indicated that Highway 111 was "well below a very poor range of the Pavement Condition Index." In 2006, the Pavement Management Program Report proposed an expenditure of \$3,388,850 to rehabilitate the Highway 111 roadway. No significant pavement maintenance has been performed following the 2006 CalTrans relinquishment of the roadway to the City. Monthly crack and pothole repair requirements for Highway 111 are increasing in frequency as well as magnitude. CVAG has recently contracted with a pavement inspection company for the 2010 TTPS update and a current Highway 111 pavement assessment should be available by June 2010.

Highway 111 Design Changes

A rescoped Phase 2 of the Highway 111 Widening/Beautification project is proposed. A Highway 111 asphalt overlay from western City limit to eastern City limit is recommended for completion during the summer of 2011. The Phase 2 project would also include new medians, high priority signal reconfigurations at Miles and Eldorado and a new signal cabinet at Cook Street. Installation of new medians will assist in development of the Highway 111 project as well as enhance the entire aesthetic experience of Indian Wells, further solidifying our City's position as one of the nation's top residential resort communities.

During Phase 2, the Highway 111 signal at Miles would be configured with a dual left eastbound turn to northbound Miles with a right turn overlap from southbound Miles to westbound Highway 111. A right turn overlap would provide the southbound Miles to westbound Highway 111 turn simultaneous with the dual left eastbound turn to northbound turn, increasing intersection efficiency. Additionally, the Highway 111 signal at Eldorado would be reconfigured for protected left turn movements from Eldorado northbound and southbound to Highway 111. Miles and Eldorado intersection revisions are required as a priority to both increase safety and reduce congestion.

A rescoped Highway 111 Phase 2 requires limited right of way adjustments at Miles Avenue, but does not construct sound walls or additional through lanes. Phase 2 also does not relocate any utilities. As a result, the substantial costs and impacts of widening Highway 111 from 4 lanes to 6 lanes are deferred but the Highway 111 roadway will be prepared for lane widening as necessity and budget allow. Median installation will also greatly enhance the Highway 111 corridor esthetic.

The subsequent Phase 3 of the Highway 111 Widening/Beautification project would be prioritized by widening of the western City limit to Cook Street. This area is of highest

congestion and operates with a low efficiency, split phase signal at Highway 111 and Cook.

Deferral of the remaining and substantial portion of Highway 111 widening project is recommended. Staff has optimized the timing on Highway 111 to achieve acceptable Level of Service C or better for peak season traffic levels which exceed 50,000 vehicles per day. Use of 150 second cycle lengths has been required to achieve acceptable LOS levels for Highway 111 during the most recent seasonal traffic peak volumes.

Existing Highway 111 Plans

Willdan Engineering has proposed and submitted Highway 111 plans to widen the roadway. However, additional refinements are appropriate as follows:

- Development of parkway and median plans including grades, utilities, conduit and preliminary sight distance triangles.
- Development of Hwy 111 Bridge widening plans at the Deep Canyon Wash.
- Development of final bus and landscape maintenance vehicle turn in pocket design.
- Development of a protected left turn signal at Indian Wells Lane.
- Development of Miles Bridge final slope protection.
- Development of final landscaping plans within CVWD guidelines.

Highway 111 Design Engineering Request for Proposal

Staff recommends that a Request for Proposal (RFP) be developed to obtain final design engineering services to provide previously described Phase 2 overlay, traffic signal and median design which will fully integrate into the long term Highway 111 widening plan.

Additional design engineering for Highway 111 parkways and sound walls as well as the Highway 111 Bridge at Deep Canyon is recommended for deferral pending additional traffic volume increases at Highway 111 and attainment of a full project funding source.

Fiscal Impact

The Highway 111 Beautification and Widening Project total cost for all phases of construction was previously estimated to equal \$58,665,000. To date, the Project cost has been \$6,400, 554. The Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) has paid for 75% of the eligible cost, excluding landscaping.

The proposed rescoped Phase 2 total cost is estimated to be \$3,864,500 split between CVAG and the City of Indian Wells. CVAG costs are estimated to be \$2,367,600. City of Indian Wells costs for Phase 2 are projected to be \$1,526,900. Alternative funding

sources have been explored including Federal TIGER Grants, Federal earmark requests and CalTrans Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) monies. Federal earmark and CalTrans (HSIP) funding could provide up to \$1,000,000 in alternative funds.

Grant funding opportunities are still being explored at this time to reduce the fiscal impact to the City. As a result, the project can be appropriately scheduled within the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Capital Budget and is recommended to be tentatively scheduled for May - September, 2011.

Highway 111 Beautification Costs to Date as of 3/2/2010

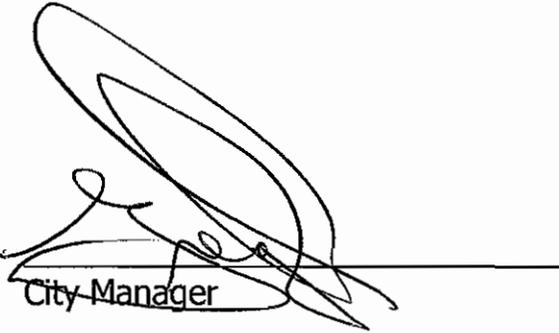
Item	CVAG	City of Indian Wells	Total
Soundwall No 1. (Eldorado to IW Lane)	\$678,992	\$678,992	\$1,357,984
Soundwall No. 2 (IW Lane to West of Miles)	\$1,614,353	\$538,118	\$2,152,471
Design & ROW Acquisition	\$1,749,072	\$583,024	\$2,332,096
Construction Phase 1A-1 (Rancho Palmeras Deceleration Lane)	\$418,502	\$139,501	\$558,003
Total	\$4,460,919	\$1,939,635	\$6,400,554

Highway 111 Phase 2 (Rescoped) – 4 Lane Overlay, Median & Signal Modifications (Proposed)

Item	CVAG	City of Indian Wells	Total
Pavement Overlay	\$2,052,200	\$684,000	\$2,736,200
Median Installation	\$229,100	\$76,400	\$305,500
Design & ROW Acquisition	\$63,800	\$21,200	\$85,000
Median Landscaping	\$0	\$467,800	\$467,800
Signal Modifications – Cook Cabinet, Eldorado, Miles	\$22,500	\$277,500	\$300,000
Total	\$2,367,600	\$1,526,900	\$3,894,500

Recommendation

Staff recommends that Council approve rescoped Phase 2 of the Highway 111 Widening/Beautification project including asphalt overlay of the existing lanes of Highway 111, signal modifications and construction of landscaped medians. The project will be included in the upcoming Capital Expenditure Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11 and tentatively scheduled for construction between May - September, 2011.



City Manager

Mountain Cove Dr



Miles Ave/
Manitou Dr



Indian Wells Ln



Club Dr

Rancho Palmeras Dr



Camino de Dorado

Eldorado Dr

Hospitality Row



Village Center Dr

Cook St

Province Way

Rancho Palmeras Dr

Miles Ave/
Manitou Dr

— Proposed Median Locations

Highway 111

March, 2010

Scale: 1" = 300'

(Appx. 9,100 LF Shown)

Mountain Cove Dr