A Tradition of Stewardship
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Agenda Date: 2/23/2021
Agenda Placement: 7S

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Letter

TO:	Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Steven Lederer - Director of Public Works Public Works
REPORT BY:	Graham Wadsworth, Engineering Supervisor - 259-8331
SUBJECT:	Approval of a Budget Transfer for the Monopole Project, RDS 21-22

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests the following:

1. Authorize the Director of Public Works to accept and execute a deposit agreement to be negotiated by the Director of Public Works and approved as to form by County Counsel with Illumination Technologies California (ITC) to provide funding to the County for a consultant to prepare documents required by the California Environmental Quality Act;
2. Approval to create a new Capital Improvement Project (CIP) within the Roads Capital Improvement Program budget (Fund 2040, Sub-Division 2040500) for the Napa Monopoles Project (Program 21065); and
3. Approval of Budget Transfer No. DPW 038 appropriating $154,721 in the Program 21065 budget with offsetting revenue from the ITC. (4/5 vote required)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On July 21, 2020, Illumination Technologies California (ITC) and Chris Canning made a presentation to the Board on their potential proposal to install 32 monopoles, each approximately 50 to 60 feet tall, at various locations on the County's right-of-way, to house fire sirens and telecommunication equipment. The poles will be substantially similar to the pole already installed on Rosedale Road. County staff provided a report on benefits of the project, the Napa County Fire Department analysis, considerations, recommendations and current ordinances, processes, and procedures for handling a typical encroachment permit application.

As discussions with the County proceeded, the siren aspect of the project has been deleted and replaced with a fire sensing technology which would benefit the County through early warning of a fire start. ITC has since

submitted a list of approximately thirty monopole sites for telecom providers within County road rights-of-way to improve cellular telephone coverage in and around the valley floor. ITC also submitted a list of eight IQ Firewatch poles (some in the ROW, some on private property) to improve early detection of wildfires in Napa County. The county has also requested that ITC potentially install about a dozen further poles in areas that lack strong broadband coverage to try and improve communications and connectivity in those areas.

In order to ultimately approve such a project, to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) the Board needs to adopt an environmental document for the project. ITC has agreed to pay for the County's environmental consultant to complete surveys and prepare documents required by CEQA. It is anticipated that the County can complete the CEQA process and ITC can construct the poles before September, 2021. Approving the budget transfer will allow the County to accept the payment from ITC and pay the consultant.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	Staff is requesting approval of a deposit agreement, creation of a Capital Improvement Project and a budget transfer to appropriate the $154,721 for the Napa Monopoles Project budget (Fund 2040, Sub-Division 2040500, Program 21065)
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Approval is necessary to begin the CEQA process and adoption of a CEQA document is required to begin construction.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	ITC will be responsible for operating and maintaining the Monopoles and IQ Firewatch poles. At a future Board Meeting, Staff will ask the Board of Supervisors to adopt the CEQA document and approve an agreement with ITC for the construction that does not require any future fiscal impact to the County.
Consequences if not approved:	ITC will not install the Monopoles nor the IQ Firewatch poles.
County Strategic Plan pillar addressed:	The project will improve the existing transportation and roads system to safely accommodate all users.
Additional Information:	ITC shall obtain an encroachment permit for each monopole in the County's right-of-way.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Consideration and possible adoption of a Categorical Exemption Class 6: It has been determined that this type of project does not have a significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. The project will not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern, has no cumulative impact, there is no reasonable possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances, will not result in damage to scenic resources, is not located on a list of hazardous waste sites, cause substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource or extract

groundwater in excess of the Phase 1 groundwater extraction standards as set by the Department of Public Works. [See Class 6 (“Information Collection”) which may be found in the guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act at 14 CCR §15306.] The surveys necessary for the environmental document are categorically exempt and staff will ask the Board to adopt the appropriate environmental document (based on the surveys) at a future meeting.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On July 21, 2020, Illumination Technologies California (ITC) and Chris Canning made a presentation to the Board on their potential proposal to install 32 monopoles, each approximately 50 to 60 feet tall, at various locations on the County's right-of-way, to house fire sirens and telecommunication equipment. The poles will be substantially similar to the pole already installed on Rosedale Road. County staff provided a report on benefits of the project, the Napa County Fire Department analysis, considerations, recommendations and current ordinances, processes, and procedures for handling a typical encroachment permit application.

As discussions with the County proceeded, the siren aspect of the project has been deleted and replaced with a fire sensing technology which would benefit the County through early warning of a fire start. ITC has since submitted a list of approximately thirty monopole sites for telecom providers within County road rights-of-way to improve cellular telephone coverage in and around the valley floor. ITC also submitted a list of eight IQ Firewatch poles (some in the ROW, some on private property) to improve early detection of wildfires in Napa County. Attached is information about the IQ Firewatch sensors.

The county has also requested that ITC potentially install about a dozen further poles in areas that lack strong broadband coverage to try and improve communications and connectivity in those areas.

In order to ultimately approve such a project, to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) the Board needs to adopt an environmental document for the project. ITC has agreed to pay for the County's environmental consultant to complete surveys and prepare documents required by CEQA. It is anticipated that the County can complete the CEQA process and ITC can construct the poles before September, 2021. Approving the budget transfer will allow the County to accept the payment from ITC and pay the consultant.

There is adequate budget authority in an existing on-call agreement with WRECO to complete the work. CEQA work is expected to complete in February, with March reserved for the required public comment period. It is anticipated that the County staff will request the Board to review and adopt a CEQA document and approve an agreement with ITC in April so that ITC can construct the monopoles and IQ Firewatch poles before the hear of the next fire season, by September, 2021.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . IQ FireWatch Information

B . Agreement

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Susan Kuss