September 9, 2025 Agenda Item No. 8

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** David A. Webb, Public Works Director - 949-644-3311,

dawebb@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Andy Tran, Principal Civil Engineer - 949-644-3315,

atran@newportbeachca.gov

TITLE: Approval of Amendment No. One to Professional Services

Agreement with Kreuzer Consulting Group for the Old Newport Boulevard and West Coast Highway Modifications Project (Contract

No. 5244-1) (15R19)

# **ABSTRACT**:

On May 14, 2013, the City of Newport Beach entered into a professional services agreement (PSA) with Kreuzer Consulting Group (KCG) of Irvine, to provide professional engineering and environmental services for the Old Newport Boulevard and West Coast Highway Modifications project. This agreement expired and the City entered into a second PSA with KCG on October 22, 2024, Contract No. 5244-1, to prepare grant funding documents for the right-of-way and construction phases of this project. Staff requests City Council approval of Amendment No. One to Contract No. 5244-1 to provide for additional engineering and right-of-way services.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- a) Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; and
- b) Approve Amendment No. One to the professional services agreement with Kreuzer Consulting Group for Engineering and Right-of-Way Services for the Old Newport Boulevard and West Coast Highway Modifications project to increase the agreement amount by \$286,059 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$306,655, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the amendment.

## **DISCUSSION:**

This project is located at the intersection of Old Newport Boulevard and West Coast Highway, an area of the highway within the jurisdiction of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). A location map is provided as Attachment A. Currently, there are three westbound and two eastbound lanes on West Coast Highway in the vicinity of the proposed project. The third westbound lane terminates into a right-turn lane at Old Newport Boulevard.

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The proposed improvements include widening the north side of West Coast Highway to continue the third westbound thru-lane, adding a bike lane, a right-turn pocket, and a sidewalk. Additional improvements include implementing storm drain modifications; constructing concrete curbs, gutters and sidewalks; constructing site improvements to two adjacent private properties impacted by the roadway widening; constructing a retaining wall; installing landscape and irrigation improvements; relocating and adjusting utilities; and modifying signing and striping. Partial right-of-way acquisition will be required from two adjacent parcels to facilitate the improvements.

On October 17, 2024, the City entered into a new PSA (Contract No. 5244-1) with KCG to prepare grant funding documents for an Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Comprehensive Transportation Funding Program grant application. In April 2025, OCTA informed the City that it will receive up to \$4,327,881 in Measure M grants for the right-of-way and construction phases.

With the success of the grant application, staff recommends the approval of Amendment No. One with KCG to prepare site improvement plans for the two impacted parcels, design a new retaining wall along the back of the two parcels, and provide right-of-way acquisition services. Upon further evaluation of the Old Newport Boulevard realignment option, the design team decided to revert to the existing Old Newport Boulevard alignment option due to right-of-way constraints and existing infrastructure conflicts. Amendment No. One (Attachment B) includes additional engineering services needed to finalize the construction documents for the existing alignment option.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The adopted budget includes sufficient funding for this service. It will be expensed to the Capital Improvement Program Project Budget Gas Tax account in the Public Works Department, 12101-980000-15R19. The consultant's proposed not-to-exceed fee for this additional service is \$286,059. Gas Tax revenue is received through State-imposed taxes on fuel and motor vehicle registration dedicated to transportation purposes.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

Staff recommends the City Council find this action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

# **NOTICING**:

The agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Council considers the item).

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# **ATTACHMENTS**:

Attachment A – Location Map Attachment B – Amendment No. One