



City of Santa Barbara

City Administrator's Office

Attachment B

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Status Report on State Route 225 Relinquishment and Improvements

City Public Works staff have been working with Caltrans for the past few years towards the relinquishment of State Route 225 (SR 225) to the City. SR 225 consists of approximately 4.2 miles of roadway from Highway 101 at Castillo Street, west along Cliff Drive then north along Las Positas to where it again intersects with Highway 101.

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In 2005 City Council approved a consultant contract to prepare a Relinquishment Report, including an evaluation of the roadway and associated infrastructure. The scope of the report covered:

- Cataloging existing conditions showing drainage, right of way, utilities, and other facilities
- Documentation of pavement conditions and future needed maintenance
- Capital improvements identified for the future
- Estimate and analysis of future maintenance costs that could be incurred by the City over the next 10 years

There have been differences in agreement with Caltrans over items in the Relinquishment Report that would be included in negotiations leading to relinquishment by Caltrans and acceptance by the City. In 2008 the State budget reductions further limited the funding discussion with Caltrans and it was mutually agreed that the negotiations would be put on hold until funding was stabilized.

In late Spring of 2010 Caltrans contacted the City to inquire whether the City was interested in moving forward with the relinquishment process at the same funding level offered in 2008. Subsequently, Caltrans moved forward with a pavement maintenance project that addressed some of the maintenance concerns of the City. There are still significant maintenance liabilities and traffic control system upgrades that will be required for this transportation facility. Included in the Relinquishment Report is a capital project covering intersection improvements at Cliff Drive/Montecito Street at Castillo Street, currently estimated at \$2,280,000 and which is partially funded with a \$750,000 grant from the State. Any other future capital improvement projects are not included, nor are funds identified to address any new enhancement projects.

The Santa Barbara City Council will be considering this issue at an upcoming meeting in March 2011. If Council desires to proceed with the relinquishment process, next steps include the following:

- Caltrans initiates the Project Study Report (PSR)
- Caltrans submits the PSR outlining relinquishment agreement terms
- Draft PSR presented to the Transportation and Circulation Committee (TCC) including request for public comment
- TCC reviews final PSR with public comment
- Council considers PSR recommendations
- City and Caltrans negotiate final agreement terms

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- Request state legislator to sponsor legislation for California Transportation Committee (CTC) to relinquish SR 225
- State passes legislation to relinquish SR 225
- CTC approves relinquishment
- City passes resolution accepting SR 225

These steps are anticipated to be completed in one to two years from initiation of the first step.