



COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: January 10, 2017

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Joshua Pack, Principal Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: **2017 Nevada County Department of Public Works Road Maintenance and Capital Improvement Five Year Plan**

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss the 2017 Nevada County Department of Public Works Road Maintenance and Capital Improvement Five Year Plan.

FUNDING: Not applicable.

BACKGROUND:

To plan for road improvements and maintenance, the Department of Public Works prepares a five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which allocates resources among both capital and maintenance infrastructure needs. The plan is updated annually. The 2017 CIP update represents a five year, \$84 million program from July 2016 through June 2021 for 562 miles of County maintained roadways.

Gas tax and vehicle licensing fees (Measure F) are the primary funding sources for the County's road maintenance activities. Since 2010 the County has seen large annual fluctuations and an overall decline in gas tax revenue. Continued reductions in the gas tax over the previous two years have resulted in more than two million dollars in reduced revenue during that time. These reductions affect agencies Statewide and are largely due to falling gas prices and consumption as well as annual adjustments under the current fuel tax swap system. Forecasters continue to suggest that agencies assume similar projections from the previous two years.

Locally, these revenue reductions continue to affect our ability to provide preventative pavement rehabilitation and maintenance over the next 5 years. In addition, the Department has eliminated the use of summer temporary employees, who provide valuable support during summertime maintenance activities. Essential safety and road maintenance services are not affected by the revenue reductions and will continue to be the top priority for the Department.

There have been discussions at the State level for funding solutions to address these funding concerns. While we remain hopeful of a solution from the State, we have been fiscally prudent in this plan, and budgeted based on reduced revenue being available for road maintenance.

In contrast to maintenance revenues, we continue to see robust state and federal grant funding for capital projects. Since 2013 the County has receive more than \$30 million dollars in federal grants for a variety of roadway safety and bridge and road maintenance projects. In 2017 alone, the Department expects to deliver a dozen capital improvement projects totaling more than \$7 million dollars.

No action is required at this time for this item. The CIP will be circulated for review and comment for various interest groups and other agencies. During this period, the Department of Public Works will meet with each Supervisor to discuss work within their District in more detail. Any resulting modifications or changes will be incorporated into the 2017 CIP and brought back to the Board for final approval and adoption in February 2017.

Item Initiated by: Joshua Pack, Principal Civil Engineer

Approved by: Steve Castleberry, Director of Public Works

SC:JP:cn

Submittal Date: December 22, 2016