November 5, 2019

Intergovernmental Agreement between Pima County and the City of Tucson for Archaeological Treatment and Recovery Services Related to the Silverbell Road, Ina Road to Grant Road Improvement Project

As part of the Pima Association of Governments Regional Transportation Plan, the City of Tucson has completed the widening of the Silverbell Road corridor, from Grant Road to Goret Road and has transitioned to the second segment of the widening project from Goret Road to El Camino del Cerro. This corridor crosses multiple jurisdictions and as authorized in the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), Pima County and the City of Tucson have agreed to share technical and other resources related to transportation and other public works projects.

Background:

During the past two years the Office of Sustainability and Conservation (OSC) was invited by the City to participate in discussions associated with the Goret to El Camino del Cerro segment of the project and has periodically provided guidance to the City regarding cultural resources compliance. This complex project requires compliance with a variety of federal statutes including the Section 404 Clean Water Act permit that is administered by the US Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS), the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, 54 U.S.C. 306108 with the CORPS as the designated lead federal agency and state statutes, particularly ARS 41-841, et seq. that is administered by the Arizona State Museum.

The Silverbell corridor lies within an area that has deep historical significance. Cultural resources records indicate that 13 archaeological sites will be impacted by project construction and therefore, require varying degrees of archaeological mitigation as mandated by federal and state laws. Due to the complexity of the mitigation work required for this project, the City has determined that Pima County Office of Sustainability and Conservation is best suited to provide archaeological treatment and data recovery services. Although the schedule and duration of this project has not yet been determined by the City, it is estimated to take five years to complete. City and County staff have established the attached Intergovernmental Agreement wherein the City has agreed to reimburse the County for all cultural resources services for the Silverbell Road - Goret to El Camino del Cerro project totaling an amount not to exceed $5 million. There is no cost to the County and eligible expenses include, but are not limited to, the County’s to-be-selected consultant/contractor costs for archaeological services and County staff labor costs.
The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: Intergovernmental Agreement between Pima County and the City of Tucson for Archaeological Treatment and Recovery Services Related to the Silverbell Road, Ina Road to Grant Road Improvement Project
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Recommendation

I recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve this IGA for the County to provide archaeological services for the Silverbell Road corridor from Grant Road to Goret Road and for the County to be reimbursed for these services not to exceed $5 million over an estimated five year period.

Sincerely,

C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/lab – September 26, 2019

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
   Linda Mayro, Director, Office of Sustainability and Conservation