



CITY OF COMMERCE AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Approval of Encampment Delegated Maintenance Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation

MEETING DATE: June 10, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Council will consider adopting a Resolution approving the Encampment Delegated Maintenance Agreement (EDMA) between the City of Commerce and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

BACKGROUND:

The City of Commerce has sought the opportunity to enter into an Encampment Delegated Maintenance Agreement (EDMA) with Caltrans. This agreement which has an initial duration of three (3) years would authorize the City to take over maintenance responsibilities at the nine (9) freeway on- and off-ramps listed below, which provide access to and from the City. These responsibilities would include the removal of litter and large items, and graffiti and weed abatement.

Map No.	Freeway	Direction	Ramp (9)	Physical Location of Ramp	Freeway Exit/Entrance	Nearest Cross Street
1	I-710	Southbound (SB)	On and Off	Washington Blvd	Washington Blvd 17B	Connor Ave
2	I-710	Northbound (NB)	On and Off	Washington Blvd	Washington Blvd 17C	Hepworth Ave
3	I-5	Northbound (NB)	On and Off	Telegraph Rd	Garfield Ave 128A	Church Rd (Home Depot)
4	I-5	Southbound (NB)	On and Off	Telegraph Rd	Atlantic Blvd (North) 129	Camfield Ave
5	I-5	Northbound (NB)	Off	Telegraph Rd	Washington Blvd 128B	Tubeway Ave

The agreement aligns with the City's ongoing efforts to address issues associated with

unsheltered encampments and to maintain safety and cleanliness in the State right-of-way. This agreement specifically addresses enhanced services for encampment-related and aesthetic concerns.

ANALYSIS:

By assuming maintenance duties for the designated ramps, the City would be able to proactively address public safety hazards, improve visual conditions at key gateway locations, and respond more quickly to issues such as illegal dumping and vegetation overgrowth.

Although Caltrans has indicated that maintenance activities listed in the agreement would be eligible for reimbursement only if Caltrans has available funds upon reimbursement request. Caltrans has limited funds for ongoing maintenance at various locations each Fiscal Year and the funds are depleted quickly and therefore reimbursement is not guaranteed, and the City must be prepared to absorb the costs. The maximum authorized expenditures allowed by Caltrans quarterly is \$37,500 with a maximum annual expenditure of \$150,000.

The approval of the EDMA is not subject to further review under CEQA Section 15301 Class 1, which categorically exempts maintenance activities such as the removal of litter, debris, weeds, and graffiti.

Staff recommends that City Council adopt a resolution approving the Encampment Delegated Maintenance Agreement (EDMA) between the City of Commerce and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve staff recommendation
2. Disapprove staff recommendation
3. Provide further direction to staff

FISCAL IMPACT:

Staff anticipates a total annual estimated cost for the maintenance of the ramps at \$150,000. The actual cost would be reimbursable by Caltrans based on Caltrans' available funding at the time of reimbursement request and is not guaranteed. Funding for the maintenance of the ramps is recommended in the proposed FY 2025-26 budget for \$150,000. If additional funding is required, staff will request the City Council to consider adding appropriations at a later time.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

This agenda item relates to the 2016 Strategic Plan, Community Quality of Life
Guiding Principle 4:

Support and evaluate community services, programs and events that promote healthy and quality lifestyles for our residents. Enhance public safety and social services through innovative programs that meet the needs of the residential and business communities.

Recommended by: Shahid Abbas, Director of Public Works
Fiscal Impact reviewed: Alvaro Castellon, Director of Finance
Approved as to form by: Noel Tapia, City Attorney
Respectfully submitted by: Ernie Hernandez, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution