

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad for Randolph Corridor Active

Transportation Project

MEETING DATE: June 10, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Council will consider adoption of the Resolution approving the Reimbursement Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad Company for Preliminary Engineering Services associated with the Randolph Corridor Active Transportation Project.

BACKGROUND

The City of Commerce, in partnership with the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG), the Cities of Bell and Huntington Park, and the County of Los Angeles, is participating in the Randolph Corridor Active Transportation Project. This regional project was identified as the top-priority corridor in Metro's 2016 Active Transportation Strategic Plan for potential Measure M funding under the Corridor category.

In January 2021, the City was awarded \$6.7M in Metro Cycle 1 MAT Program. Of the 6.8-Mile corridor, approximately 2.34 Miles fall within the City of Commerce, representing a proportional project budget allocation of approximately \$1.9M. The project includes planning, environmental, design, and construction phases, with anticipated completion in FY 2025–26.

On January 24, 2023, the City Council adopted a resolution authorizing City of Commerce to be the lead agency for this multi-agency project. The Randolph Corridor runs eastwest, with the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) corridor running in parallel and adjacent to the Randolph Street. The operation of the railroad at grade crossing facilities are likely to be affected by this project. To ensure that this project has no adverse impact on the railroad crossing facilities the plans require UPRR review and concurrence.

ANALYSIS:

The project's proposed bicycle and pedestrian improvements will intersect UPRR rightof-way crossings located at Eastern Avenue, Garfield Avenue in the City, Holmes Avenue in LA County, and Randolph St in Huntington Park. These improvements are critical to ensuring safe and continuous pedestrians and bicyclists' access along the Randolph Corridor.

To proceed with design or construction activity within UPRR right-of-way, UPRR must first evaluate potential impacts to its railroad operation. The UPRR, therefore requires the City to enter into reimbursement agreements with UPRR to authorize Preliminary Engineering (PE) Services such as field inspections, plans and specifications review, and engineering oversight during construction phase.

On May 13, 2025, City Council approved two reimbursement agreements totaling \$150,000: one for the Eastern and Garfield crossings (\$100,000), and one for the Holmes Avenue crossing (\$50,000).

Subsequently, the City received an additional reimbursement agreement from UPRR in an amount of \$50,000 for Randolph St in Huntington Park. Similar to the previously approved agreements, this agreement will allow UPRR and its consultants to begin reviewing the project's proposed improvements and provide necessary input during the design phase at the location specified. Entering into the agreement is critical to maintaining the project timeline and ensuring future approvals by railroad.

Staff recommends adoption of the resolution approving the reimbursement agreement to ensure timely coordination with UPRR and avoid delays in the planning and design phases of the Randolph Corridor Active Transportation Project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Project is grant funded by Metro's \$6,703,891 MAT Grant based on reimbursement. Reimbursable Funds in the amount of \$3,650,000 were budgeted in the Measure AA Funds in the FY24/25 CIP (Account 41-5170-57010.50010) to cover project management, planning, environmental, design, and portion of the construction phases. The reimbursement agreement is for up to \$50,000 and will be covered by grant fund balances from the respective jurisdiction.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC GOALS:

This item relates to Council's 2016 Strategic Action Plan's:

Community Quality of Life

Guiding Principle 4 to "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 and Agreements