

FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021 7:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER 128 SOUTH 5TH STREET FOWLER, CA 93625

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance or accommodations to access the City Council Chambers or participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk at (559) 834-3113 x102. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

City Council meetings are open to the public at the physical address listed above. There are numerous ways to participate in the City Council meetings: you may attend in person, you may appear by telephone as described below, or you may submit written comments via email to avasquez@ci.fowler.ca.us. Please include your name and reference the agenda item you are commenting on, if any. Written comments received that do not specify an agenda item will be marked for the general public comment portion of the agenda. Emails received by 8:00 am on the date of the meeting will be provided to the City Council at the meeting and made part of the record of proceedings but will not be read aloud.

The telephone number listed below will provide access to the meeting via teleconference. Please note: when joining the teleconference you will be asked for your name which will be used to identify you during any public comment period.

Telephone Number: 978-990-5175

Meeting ID:

494026#

It is requested that any member of the public attending while on the teleconference have their phone set on "mute" to eliminate background noise or other interference from telephonic participation.

Any writing or document that is a public record and provided to a majority of the City Council regarding an open session item on the agenda will be made available for public inspection at City Hall, in the City Clerk's office, during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted on the City's website at www.fowlercity.org.

Resolutions and Ordinances - With respect to the approval of resolutions and ordinances, the reading of the title thereto shall be deemed a motion to waive a reading of the complete resolution or ordinance and unless there is a request by a Councilmember that the resolution or ordinance be read in full, further reading of the resolution or ordinance shall be deemed waived by unanimous consent of the Council.

- 1. Meeting Called to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Invocation by Pastor Easter of the Church of Sharon
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance
- 5. Public Comment

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Council on any matter not described on this agenda. Presentations are limited to 5 minutes per person and no more than 15 minutes per topic.

Consent Calendar

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and include a recommended action, and shall be approved by one motion of the Council. If a Councilmember or member of the public requests additional information or wishes to comment on an item, the vote should be held until the questions or comments are made, and then a single vote should be taken. If a Councilmember opposes the recommended action for an item, the item should be removed and discussed and acted upon as a separate item. A motion to approve the Consent Calendar is deemed to include a motion to waive the full reading of any ordinance or resolution on the Consent Calendar. For adoption of ordinances, only those that have received a unanimous vote upon introduction are considered Consent items.

- 6-A. RATIFY Warrants for October 5, 2021
- 6-B. APPROVE Minutes of the September 21, 2021 City Council Meeting
- 6-C. APPROVE Resolution No. 2518 Approving Amendments to the City's Salary Classification Schedule for the Building Official Position. (City Manager)
- 6-D. APPROVE Resolution No. 2519 Approving List of Projects for 2021 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Grant Funding and Committing to Timely Use of Funding. (Planning)
- 6-E. APPROVE Resolution No. 2520 Approving List of Projects for 2021 Surface Transportation Block Grant Funding and Committing to Timely Use of Funding. (Planning)

General Administration

7-A. Finance

 APPROVE Budget Amendment Resolution No. 2521 to appropriate \$165,684 for the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

7-B. Planning

- APPROVE a Disposition and Development Agreement between the City of Fowler and Abdallah Qawadri for City's Surplus Property located at the Northwest Corner of South 7th Street and East Vine Street, APNs 343-233-02ST and 3443-233-03ST
- ii. ADOPTION of Ordinance 2021-04, An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fowler Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City to Reflect a Change of Zone for Assessor's Parcel Nos. 340-130-09 and 340-220-33.

7-C. Public Works

- Review alternatives and provide staff direction regarding potential request to Caltrans to add median treatment to the State Routh 99 improvement project.
- ii. Introduction of Ordinance No. 2021-05, An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fowler Adding Provisions to the Fowler Municipal Code Pertaining to Organic Waste Collection (Staff is recommending this item be continued to a future meeting).

7-D. City Manager's Office

- i. COVID-19 Update
- 8. Staff Communications (City Manager)
- 9. City Attorney Report Update on AB 361 Teleconferencing Requirements and Seek Direction from City Council on Potential Teleconferencing for Future City Council Meetings.
- 10. Councilmember Reports and Comments
- 11. Adjourn

Next Ordinance No. 2021-06 Next Resolution No. 2522

CERTIFICATION: I, Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Fowler, California, hereby certify that the foregoing agenda was posted for public review on Friday, October 1, 2021.

Angela Vasquez Deputy City Clerk

6 A

CITY OF FOWLER WARRANTS LIST October 5, 2021

	CHECK NUMBERS	CHECK DATES	AMOUNT
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	38325-38411	Sept 20 thru Sept 29	\$ 280,443.42
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECKS			\$ 280,443.42
Second September Bi-Monthly Payroll		September 30, 2021	90,626.15
TOTAL PAYROLL COSTS			\$ 90,626.15
			\$ 371,069.57
NOTE: Check #38325 Check #38361 Check #38394 Check #38394	Void check Void check carry over to check #38362 Void check Void check	check #38362	ITEM

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND

SELECTION CRITERIA: transact.check_no between '38325' and '38411' ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 3/22

SUPERION DATE: 09/30/2021 TIME: 11:48:32

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND SELECTION CRITERIA: transact.check_no between '38325' and '38411' ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 3/22 SUPERION DATE: 09/30/2021 TIME: 11:48:32

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND

CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMEN

SUPERION DATE: 09/30/2021 TIME: 11:48:32 SELECTION CRITERIA: transact.check_no between '38325' and '38411' ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 3/22

FUND - 100 - GENERAL FUND

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND

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TOTAL FUND

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CITY OF FOWLER CHECK REGISTER - DISBURSEMENT FUND

SUPERION DATE: 09/30/2021 TIME: 11:48:32

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6

MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday September 21, 2021

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:01 p. m.

Councilmembers Present:

Cardenas, Rodriquez, Kazarian (via phone), and Mejia

Councilmembers Absent:

Parra

City Staff Present:

City Manager Quan, City Attorney Cross, Police Chief Alcaraz, Public Works Director Dominguez, Community Development Director Gaffery, Recreation Coordinator Hernandez, Assistant Fire Chief Hernandez, Fire Chief Lopez, City Planner Marple, Finance Director Moreno, City Engineer Peters, Deputy City Clerk Vasquez

5. CEREMONIAL PRESENTATION

Send-off Erin Banks as he competes for the Mr. Olympia title.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez made a motion to approve the consent calendar, seconded by Councilmember Kazarian. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Rodriquez, Kazarian, Cardenas, Mejia.

8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

8-A. PLANNING

i. APPROVE Resolution No. 2514 Authorizing Submittal of a Grant Application for the Small Community Drought Program Funds.

City Planner Marple reported the grant is intended to assist small communities survive current and future droughts. She stated staff reviewed the program and it directly relates to the water model that was completed earlier this year. City Planner Marple stated staff proposes to construct a new well on the west side of State Route 99 and a 12-inch water main between South Golden State Boulevard and South Fowler Avenue along the South Avenue alignment and under State Route 99.

City Planner Marple reported there is no minimum or maximum funding under this grant application and does not require matching funds. She stated staff intends to submit the grant application following Council approval of the Resolution. City Planner Marple noted applications for funding are accepted on a first come first served bases until all funds are awarded or until December 29, 2023, whichever comes first. She stated the grant funding must be encumbered or expended by June 30, 2024.

Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez inquired how soon staff would turn in the application after Council approval. City Planner Marple stated the application is eighty percent complete. Councilmember Mejia inquired if the 12-inch main would compensate for the issue on Merced Street between the east and west side. City Planner Marple stated the components would assist with both water pressure and peak demands. Mayor Pro-Tem inquired where the well site would be located. Public Works Director Dominguez stated several city sites are being considered.

Fowler resident Steve Barela addressed the Council.

Councilmember Mejia made a motion to APPROVE Resolution No. 2514, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Mejia, Rodriquez, Cardenas, Kazarian.

ii. Public Hearing to Consider Items Pertaining to Zoning (Prezoning) Ordinance Amendment No. 19-03, and Annexation Request No. 19-03, filed by Fowler Unified School District for property located on the west side of South Armstrong Avenue between East Adams and East Clayton Avenues.

City Planner Marple provided an overview of the Marshall Elementary expansion project. She reported the annexation request from Fowler Unified is to annex approximately 2.97 acres for an expansion of Marshall Elementary School to accommodate a new pre-school and drop-off zone. City Planner Marple stated staff recommends the annexation include a small single-family residence that is between the existing school site and proposed expansion site which would provide a logical city boundary. She reported both parcels would be zoned Resource Conservation District (RCO) and the existing single-family residence would be considered a legal non-conforming use. City Planner Marple stated the residence can remain and the existing residential use can continue as residential dwellings are exempt from abandonment of legal non-conforming use regulations. She stated staff has had discussions with the property owner.

City Planner Marple reported Fowler Unified prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines and circulated it for the required 30-day public review. She reported Fowler Unified School District (FUSD) adopted the MND for the expansion project on June 16, 2021. City Planner

Marple reported FUSD named the City of Fowler as a Responsible Agency pursuant to CEQA Guidelines in order to carry out Zoning (Prezoning) Ordinance Amendment No. 19-03 and Annexation Request No. 19-03. She stated the City has prepared an Addendum to the 2021 Marshall Elementary School Expansion Project MND to facilitate the expansion of the annexation area.

Fowler resident Paul Bedrosian addressed the Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez made a motion to APPROVE Resolution No. 2515, a Resolution adopting an Addendum to the Mitigated Negative Declaration for Zoning (Prezoning) Ordinance Amendment No. 19-03 and Annexation Request No. 19-03, seconded by Councilmember Mejia. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Rodriquez, Mejia, Cardenas, Kazarian.

Councilmember Mejia made a motion to APPROVE Resolution No. 2516, a Resolution approving Annexation Request No. 19-03, seconded by Councilmember Kazarian. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Mejia, Kazarian, Cardenas, Rodriquez.

Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez made a motion to APPROVE Ordinance No. 2021-04, an Ordinance approving Zoning Ordinance Amendment No. 19-03, seconded by Councilmember Kazarian. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Rodriquez, Kazarian, Cardenas, Mejia.

8-B. RECREATION

i. 2021 Special Events Update

Public Works Director Dominguez provided an informational calendar of events and their road closure impacts for the remainder of the year. He reported staff will present Council a projected 2022 events calendar during a January or February meeting. Public Works Director Dominguez stated the City has not separately tracked the staffing and related costs involved with the City-sponsored and non-City-sponsored events held in the City. He noted all staff costs incurred by the City for the events have been absorbed by individual departments and not specifically budgeted or charged to the various events. Public Works Director Dominguez stated staff will begin to track these costs and report this information to Council when the events calendar is presented. City Manager Quan noted the importance of supporting City events while tracking staff, hard, and road closure costs to put a process in place.

Mayor Cardenas thanked staff for the update and noted the importance of including the costs in the budget. Both Councilmembers Mejia and Kazarian echoed Mayor Cardenas' comments.

8-C. CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

i. COVID-19 Update

City Manager Quan reported that the Fresno County Department of Public Health's data shows Fowler's vaccination rate is 65% and staff continues to keep in close communication with FCDPH on any regulatory changes. She also reminded Council of the Employee Appreciation Dinner on Friday, October 22, 2021. City Manager Quan announced the Fire Station Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14, 2021 and requested Council share with her any guests they'd like to be included on the invitation list.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS – (CITY MANAGER)

9-A. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Alcaraz distributed DOJ crime statistics for the month of August 2021 and reported domestic violence numbers continue to rise. He reported last week Fowler Police Department hosted a round table with local Police Chiefs and Nicole Linder of the Marjaree Mason Center to discuss practices to assist domestic violence victims. Chief Alcaraz reported an Officer assisted with the Tom Flores event in Sanger last weekend. He also stated a recent Tik-Tok trend has caused some issues at area schools and Fowler PD is working closely with school administration.

9-B. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Lopez shared August call logs for a total of 68 events and 624 events for the year. He reported crews responded to two structure fires last week assisting Fresno County with one of the fires. Chief Lopez introduced firefighters Andrew Venegas and Tomas Ramos and commended them for completing Cal-Fire Academy training.

9-C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Community Development Director Gaffery thanked Council for participating in zoning text amendments one-on-ones. He stated the items will go before Planning Commission and Council in Fall.

9-D. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Public Works Director Dominguez updated Council on the Armstrong Avenue re-paving project and City Hall counter installation.

10. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mayor Cardenas requested assistance from the Council in obtaining Employee Appreciation Dinner raffle prizes from businesses.

Councilmember Kazarian announced South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency approved the agreement for K Hovanian Homes.

Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez reported the Fall Fest Yard Sale was well attended and a success. He commended Recreation Coordinator Hernandez for her hard work.

Councilmember Mejia inquired if there will be a Veteran's Day event this year. City Manager Quan stated staff will research and report back to Council at the next meeting.

11. CLOSED SESSION

No reportable action was taken on any of the three items.

12. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

13. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



ITEM NO: 6-C

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2021

FROM:

Thomas Gaffery, Community Development Director

SUBJECT

Approve Resolution No. 2518 Approving Amendments to the City's Salary Classification Schedule for the Building Official Position

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend Council approve a Resolution amending the City's Salary Classification Schedule for the Building Official Position.

BACKGROUND

The Building Official Position has been posted since July 20, 2021 on the City's website and various other websites where vacancies are typically posted for that field. Staff have not received any applications from qualified candidates. Staff contacted Koff & Associates who are currently performing the City's classification and compensation study for a recommendation. In addition, staff conducted a review of comparable building official and inspector salary ranges at nearby municipalities. Based on that data, staff recommend modifying the monthly salary range for the Building Official position to \$5,205 to \$6,327 per month. If a candidate were hired, and depending on the salary step, the increase could vary from \$814.50 to \$989.95 per month.

FISCAL IMPACT

When a candidate is selected and hired, the potential increase in the monthly rate of pay will still result in a cost savings compared to the cost of outsourced plan checking and inspection service.

Attachments:

- Resolution No. 2518
- Salary Classification Schedule

RESOLUTION NO. 2518

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOWELER APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S SALARY CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE FOR THE BUILDING OFFICIAL POSITION

The City Council of the City of Fowler resolves as follows:

- WHEREAS, the current salary range for the Building Official classification is \$4,390.50 to \$5,337.05 per month; and
- WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is necessary modify this salary range to accurately reflect the local market for rates for such a position; and
- WHEREAS, modification of the City's Salary Classification Schedule requires authorization by the City Council.
- NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Fowler that the City's Salary Classification Schedule shall be modified for the Building Official Position with the revised monthly salary range of \$5,205 to \$6,327.

The foregoing Resolution was introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fowler held on October 5, 2021, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
Dated: October 5, 2021
David Cardenas, Mayor
ATTEST:
Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk

SALARY CLASSIFICATIONS & CORRESPONDING STEP PER POSITION FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

After COLA	2%	Effective 8/1/20			REV 10/05/2021
			MONTHLY PAY		
FULL TIME	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP	STEP
POSITION TITLE	A	8	U	٥	ш
CITY MANAGER	10,771.10	11,309.60	11,875.97	12,469.10	13,092.33
CITY CLERK/ASST PERSONNEL DIR	7,233.50	7,595.85	7,976.03	8,375.17	8,796.60
EXEC & HR ASST/DEP CITY CLERK	4,839.11	5,081.06	5,336.82	5,603.18	5,880.15
FINANCE DIRECTOR	7,877.92	8,271.48	8,686.23	9,117.69	9,574.81
ACCOUNT CLERK	3,183.05	3,344.72	3,507.49	3,685.88	3,867.61
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	3,464.01	3,636.82	3,818.55	4,012.54	4,212.11
ACCOUNTIING TECHNICIAN	4,615.71	4,847.61	5,091.77	5,344.86	5,613.55
SECRETARY/PLANNING ASSISTANT	3,734.93	3,922.24	4,117.34	4,324.72	4,541.01
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR	7,663.86	8,046.27	8,449.87	8,871.30	9,315.03
BUILDING OFFICIAL	5,205	5,465	5,739	6,025	6,327
POLICE CHIEF + 5% POST	8,253.64	8,663.93	98.660,6	9,555.85	10,031.92
POLICE LIEUTENANT	5,342.63	2,607.97	5,888.93	6,186.61	6,493.21
POLICE LIEUTENANT + 5% POST	5,607.97	5,888.93	6,186.61	6,493.21	6,819.87
POLICE SERGEANT	4,607.90	4,839.80	5,081.74	5,337.05	5,603.51
POLICE SERGEANT + 2% POST	4,701.55	4,935.68	5,183.19	5,442.97	5,716.12
POLICE SERGEANT + 5% POST	4,839.80	5,081.74	5,337.05	5,603.51	5,881.12
POLICE CORPORAL	4,364.85	4,586.72	4,811.93	5,051.64	5,306.95
POLICE CORPORAL + 2% POST	4,454.05	4,675.91	4,911.16	5,155.32	5,413.98
POLICE CORPORAL + 5% POST	4,586.72	4,811.93	5,051.64	5,306.95	5,572.30
POLICE OFFICER	4,156.37	4,364.85	4,586.72	4,811.93	5,051.64
POLICE OFFICER + 2% POST	4,241.10	4,454.05	4,675.91	4,911.16	5,155.32
POLICE OFFICER + 5% POST	4,364.85	4,586.72	4,811.93	5,051.64	5,306.95
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR	7,233.50	7,595.85	7,976.03	8,375.17	8,796.60
PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR	5,337.05	5,603.51	5,881.12	6,178.80	6,487.63
MAINTENANCE WORKER I	2,977.91	3,128.42	3,287.86	3,449.52	3,622.33
MAINTENANCE WORKER II	3,344.72	3,507.49	3,685.88	3,867.61	4,060.48
MAINTENANCE WORKER III	3,950.11	4,148.56	4,355.93	4,574.46	4,801.90
WATER OPERATOR	4,173.09	4,383.81	4,601.21	4,833.11	5,075.05
SENIOR CENTER/RECREATION COORDINATOR	3,141.80	3,299.00	3,464.01	3,686.82	3,818.55



ITEM NO: 6-D

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2021

FROM:

David Peters, City Engineer

SUBJECT

Approve Resolution No. 2519 Approving List of Projects for 2021 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Grant Funding and Committing to Timely Use of Funding

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adopting Resolution No. 2519 which approves the list of projects for the 2021 CMAQ grant funding and committing to the timely use of federal and state funding.

BACKGROUND

On September 1, 2021, the Fresno Council of Governments (FCOG) Policy Board officially initiated the 2021-22 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Call for Projects. Projects will be awarded based on both Lifeline and Regional Competitive Bids. The lifeline funding is distributed to each member agency based on a population calculation.

The grant application packages for the regional bid funds were submitted on September 17, 2021.

Staff identified various potential projects that are eligible to receive CMAQ funding and which were submitted with the City's grant application for funding consideration. The following projects were identified based on needs that have been observed by staff over the past several years.

- 1. Adams Avenue Pedestrian Improvements 7th to Temperance
- 2. Sumner Avenue Pedestrian Improvements Sunnyside to Merced
- 3. 10th/SR 99 Alley Improvements 10th to Mariposa

Staff recommends adopting the resolution approving the list of submitted projects and committing to the timely use of the CMAQ federal funding.

FISCAL IMPACT

Projects would be programmed in FY 22-23 and FY 23-24.

Attachments:

- Resolution No. 2519

RESOLUTION NO. 2519

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOWLER APPROVING LIST OF PROJECTS FOR 2021 CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (CMAQ) GRANT FUNDING AND COMMITTING TO TIMELY USE OF FUNDING

WHERAS, AB 1012 has been enacted into State Law in part to provide for the "timely use" of State and Federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fowler has submitted an application with a list of projects for Federal and State funding under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program;

WHEREAS, the City of Fowler desires to ensure that its projects are delivered in a timely manner to preclude the Fresno Region from losing those funds for non-delivery; and

WHEREAS, it is understood by the City of Fowler that failure for not meeting project delivery dates for any phase of a project may jeopardize federal or state funding to the Region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fowler must demonstrate dedicated and available local matching funds; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Fowler, based on the staff report and presentation by City staff during the October 5, 2021, City Council meeting, hereby finds that the City has sufficient matching funds available for the projects listed in the City's 2021 CMAQ grant funding application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Fowler hereby directs the City Manager and other City staff as appropriate to ensure all projects are carried out in a timely manner in accordance with applicable CMAQ funding requirements.

I, Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Fowler, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Fowler City Council held on the 5th day of October 2021.

Ayes:	Councilmembers:	
Noes:	Councilmembers:	ATTEST:
Absent:	Councilmembers:	
Abstain:	Councilmembers:	
		Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk City of Fowler
David Carde	enas, Mayor	
City of Fow	ler	



ITEM NO: 6-E

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2021

FROM: David Peters, City Engineer

SUBJECT

Approve Resolution No. 2520 Approving List of Projects for 2021 Surface Transportation Block Grant Funding and Committing to Timely Use of Funding

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adopting Resolution No. 2520 which approves the list of projects for the 2021 STBG grant funding and committing to the timely use of federal and state funding.

BACKGROUND

On September 1, 2021, the Fresno Council of Governments (FCOG) Policy Board officially initiated the 2021-22 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Call for Projects. Projects will be awarded based on both Lifeline and Regional Competitive Bids. The lifeline funding is distributed to each member agency based on a population calculation.

The grant application packages for the regional bid funds were submitted on October 1, 2021.

Staff identified various potential projects that are eligible to receive STBG funding and which were submitted with the City's grant application for funding consideration. The following projects were identified based on needs that have been observed by staff over the past several years.

- 1. Adams Ave Improvements Golden State Blvd to SR 99
- 2. Fowler Ave Improvements Adams to 640ft south of Clayton
- 3. Manning Ave Improvements Temperance to SR 99

Staff recommends adopting the resolution approving the list of submitted projects and committing to the timely use of the STBG federal funding.

FISCAL IMPACT

Projects would be programmed in FY 22-23 and FY 23-24.

Attachments:

- Resolution No. 2520

RESOLUTION NO. 2520

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOWLER APPROVING LIST OF PROJECTS FOR 2021 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) FUNDING AND COMMITTING TO TIMELY USE OF FUNDING

WHERAS, AB 1012 has been enacted into State Law in part to provide for the "timely use" of State and Federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fowler has submitted an application with a list of projects for Federal and State funding under the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program;

WHEREAS, the City of Fowler desires to ensure that its projects are delivered in a timely manner to preclude the Fresno Region from losing those funds for non-delivery; and

WHEREAS, it is understood by the City of Fowler that failure for not meeting project delivery dates for any phase of a project may jeopardize federal or state funding to the Region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fowler must demonstrate dedicated and available local matching funds; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Fowler, based on the staff report and presentation by City staff during the October 5, 2021, City Council meeting, hereby finds that the City has sufficient matching funds available for the projects listed in the City's 2021 STBG grant funding application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Fowler hereby directs the City Manager and other City staff as appropriate to ensure all projects are carried out in a timely manner in accordance with applicable STBG funding requirements.

I, Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Fowler, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Fowler City Council held on the 5th day of October 2021.

Ayes:	Councilmembers:	
Noes:	Councilmembers:	ATTEST:
Absent:	Councilmembers:	
Abstain:	Councilmembers:	
		Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk
		City of Fowler
David Carde	enas, Mayor	

City of Fowler



FOWLER CITY COUNCIL

7-Ai

ITEM NO:

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2021

FROM:

Margarita Moreno, Finance Director

SUBJECT

Approve Budget Amendment Resolution No. 2521 to appropriate \$165,684 for the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend approval of Budget Amendment Resolution No. 2521 to appropriate \$165,684 for payment to the South Kings GSA.

BACKGROUND

In 2017, the City of Fowler formed a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with the Cities of Sanger, Parlier and Kingsburg as well as the Del Rey Community Services District to act as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency as defined by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The JPA is designated as the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA).

Annually, the SKGSA adopts a preliminary budget in the spring of each year. That preliminary budget is transmitted to each member agency such that the annual contribution can be included in each agency's annual budget. After July 1 of each year, the SKGSA invoices the member agencies for their annual contribution.

The invoices for the City's FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 annual contributions to the SKGSA were recently received. The annual contribution for FY 2020-21 of \$61,411 will be expensed in the prior year and paid, but a budget amendment for the FY 2021-22 is needed to appropriate the current annual contribution of \$165,684. Contributions from other cities in the SKGSA are outlined on the attached document. The SKGSA also recently purchased a recharge basin in the City of Fowler in the amount of \$225,000 for land acquisition & improvement. The City of Fowler's portion is \$30,000 as illustrated on the attached document entitled Amendment No. 1. The invoice of purchase has not

been received, funds have been appropriated in the adopted budget for FY2021-22 for the outstanding bill.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are sufficient fund balance reserves in the Fund 502 Groundwater Recharge CID to cover prior year payment and the current year budget amendment needed.

Attachments:

- -Budget Amendment Resolution No. 2521 -SKGSA Cities Contributions

RESOLUTION NO. 2521

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOWLER APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (SKGSA) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022

WHEREAS, the FY 2021/2022 Annual Budget reflects the City of Fowler's ongoing commitment to providing core services; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2021/2022 Annual Budget was approved by the City Council on June 15, 2021, by Resolution 2504, and any subsequent amendments must be approved by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the budget amendment request attached hereto specifies the details of the proposed professional services for South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA) annual contribution

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fowler City Council hereby resolves that the FY 2021/2022 budget be amended to reflect \$165,684 appropriations as described in the attachment hereto.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of October 2021, at a regular meeting of the Fowler City Council by the following vote:

AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:		
	APPROVED:	
	David Cardenas, Mayor	
ATTEST:		
Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk		
Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk		



REQUEST FOR BUDGET AMENDMENT Resolution 2521

		M_ME 8		TE 1500	
Requested by: Marga	rita Moreno			Budge	et Amounts
Account Numbers:	Fund Name Description			Increase	Decrease
Revenues:					20010000
502 Fund Balance	Ground Recharge CID Fund			\$165,684	
Appropriations:	7/				
5020-5220	Professional Services		\$165,684	:	
Reason(s) for Budget A	nendment:			<u> </u>	
To align the expenses to the FY 2021/2022 budget, staff is requesting budget amendments to Fund 502 for professional services for financial reporting for the budget amendment request attached hereto specifies the details of the proposed professional services for annual contribution to South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA) Department Director					
Approval Required Budget Amendment:					
Finance Director	Dat Signature	te			
City Manager Date Signature					
City Council: Approved Resolution # Denied Date					

FISCAL YEAR
Total GSA Contribution

FY 21-22 \$ 1,265,000

Local Agency Budg	Local Agency Budget Requirements		FY 21-22	
Fowler	13.10%	\$	165,684	
Del Rey	6.24%	\$	78,888	
Kingsburg	21.69%	\$	274,402	
Parlier	16.17%	\$	204,499	
Sanger	42.81%	\$	541,527	
TOTALS	100%	Ś	1.265.000	

2020 Calendar Year Groun	2020 Calendar Year Groundwater Pumped (A-F)	
Fowler	1844	13.10%
Del Rey	878	6.24%
Kingsburg	3054	21.69%
Parlier	2276	16.17%
Sanger	6027	42.81%
TOTALS	14079	100.00%

South Kings GSA Preliminary Budget FY 2021-22 Amendment No. 1

Amendment Description			FY 21-22		
Contribution for Fowler Recharge Basin south of South Avenue sand west of Sunnyside Avenue adjacent to Kirby Canal		\$	225,000		
Local Agency Budget Requirements			FY 21-22		
Fowler	13.10%	\$	29,469		
Del Rey	6.24%	\$	14,032		
Kingsburg	21.69%	\$	48,807		
Parlier	16.17%	\$	36,373		
Sanger	42.81%	\$	96,319		
TOTALS	100%	\$	225,000		

2020 Calendar Year Grou	2020 Calendar Year Groundwater Pumped (A-F)	
Fowler	1844	% of Total 13.10%
Del Rey	878	6.24%
Kingsburg	3054	21.69%
Parlier	2276	16.17%
Sanger	6027	42.81%
TOTALS	14079	100.00%



ITEM NO: 7-Bi

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2021

FROM:

Wilma Quan, City Manager

SUBJECT

APPROVE a Disposition and Development Agreement between the City of Fowler and Abdullah Qawadri for the property located at the northwest corner of South 7th Street and East Vine Street and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend the City Council approve a Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA) between the City of Fowler and Abdullah Qawadri for the property located at the northwest corner of South 7th Street and East Vine Street and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

BACKGROUND

Council previously declared the property located at the northwest corner of South 7th Street and East Vine Street surplus and Staff initiated the Surplus Land Act process. Following conclusion of that process, the City was allowed to accept offers and Staff recommend the sale of the Property as stated above.

The attached DDA allows the City to sell the Property but also ensures that development of the Property results in a beneficial use to the community. Key terms of the DDA include:

- The DDA requires the Developer to establish a retail dining establishment and production bakery and operate other permissible uses.
- The Developer must obtain construction financing and obtain all necessary planning and building approvals prior to the close of escrow.
- Escrow must close within 180 days of execution of the DDA. A building permit must be issued
 within 30 days of close of escrow. Construction must be complete within 12 months of issuance
 of a building permit.
- The City has right to reenter and take possession of the Property if Developer fails to perform the requirements outlined in the DDA.

- The Developer agrees, for a period of no less than five (5) years, to locate and designate the Property as the location of the order desk for purposes of sales from the production bakery so that the City of Fowler is deemed the point of sale.
- The City retains the Right of First Refusal to acquire the Property at a Fair Market Value for 50 years.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action will generate \$275,000 in one-time proceeds to the General Fund per on the terms of the DDA. After escrow has closed and the City has received the deposit funds, staff will bring forward a budget resolution for Council to determine allocation of those funds.

Attachments:

- Will be distributed on Monday, October 4, 2021



ITEM NO: 7-Bii

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2021

FROM:

Dawn E. Marple, City Planner

SUBJECT

Adoption of Ordinance 2021-04, An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fowler Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City to Reflect a Change of Zone for Assessor's Parcel Nos. 340-130-09 and 340-220-33.

RECOMMENDATION

Ordinance No. 2021-04 was introduced by the City Council at the regular meeting on September 21, 2021, and adoption of the Ordinance is recommended. The Planning Commission recommended approval at its September 2, 2021, regular meeting.

BACKGROUND

Fowler Unified School District is proposing the expansion of the existing Marshall Elementary School to serve the existing student population and relocate the District's early learning program. The preschool is a year-round program with hours between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and will serve 90 students at build-out. The site will include up to 6 classrooms, administration offices, parking, and play areas. There will be three modular buildings, with an approximate area totaling almost 16,000 square feet (sq. ft.).

The Project site is located north of the existing Marshall Elementary School. Figure 1 shows the aerial view of the Project site. The proposed Project will occupy approximately 3-acre portion of an undeveloped site (APN 340-130-09) in unincorporated Fresno County. The Project site will be annexed into the City of Fowler and connect to the City of Fowler's water systems and to the Selma-Kingsburg-Fowler Sanitation District sewer systems.

The proposed Project will include three new modular buildings, hardcourts, playfield and paved parking and fire access driveways. The three modular buildings will have an approximate area totaling almost 16,000 square feet (sq. ft.). Also, new parking lot improvement are planned in the east portion of the site. Construction is anticipated to take approximately 9-12 months to complete.

In order to provide a logical boundary, the City has included a 0.33 acre parcel of land (APN 340-220-33) currently improved with a single-family residence into the Project for purposes of annexation. Both parcels are proposed for annexation, and both Fowler USD and the owner of the second parcel support annexation.

Ordinance 2021-04 will approve Zoning (Prezoning) Ordinance Amendment No. 19-03 and will rezone the subject properties to RCO (Resource Conservation, Public Use, and Open Space) zone district (see Exhibit 3), which is consistent with the underlying General Plan Land Use designation of Parks and Open Space (FMC Section 9-5.307; see Exhibit 2). Public elementary schools are a permitted use in the RCO zone district (FMC Section 9-5.503).

While the school is proposed on land currently designated as Parks and Open Space, approval of this prezone and annexation does not preclude future park development in the area, as "[I]ocations for future park sites are schematic and may be located on any suitable lands in the general vicinity." (General Plan Policy 4.7-15). Future school sites too can be located on any suitable lands in the general vicinity. (General Plan Policy 4.7-17)

Single-family residences are not allowed in the RCO zone district. Therefore, the rezone will result in the existing single-family residence becoming a legal non-conforming use. However, the residence can remain and the existing residential use can continue as residential dwellings are exempt from abandonment of legal nonconforming use regulations (FMC Section 9-5.29-.03). Additionally, expansion and/or remodels up to 50 percent of the value of the residential structure are allowed subject to Administrative Approval (FMC Section 9-5.504), and repairs and customary maintenance are as always permitted (FMC Section 9-5.29.02).

ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS

A Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) (State Clearinghouse No. 2021050269) was prepared by Fowler USD in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Attachment D).

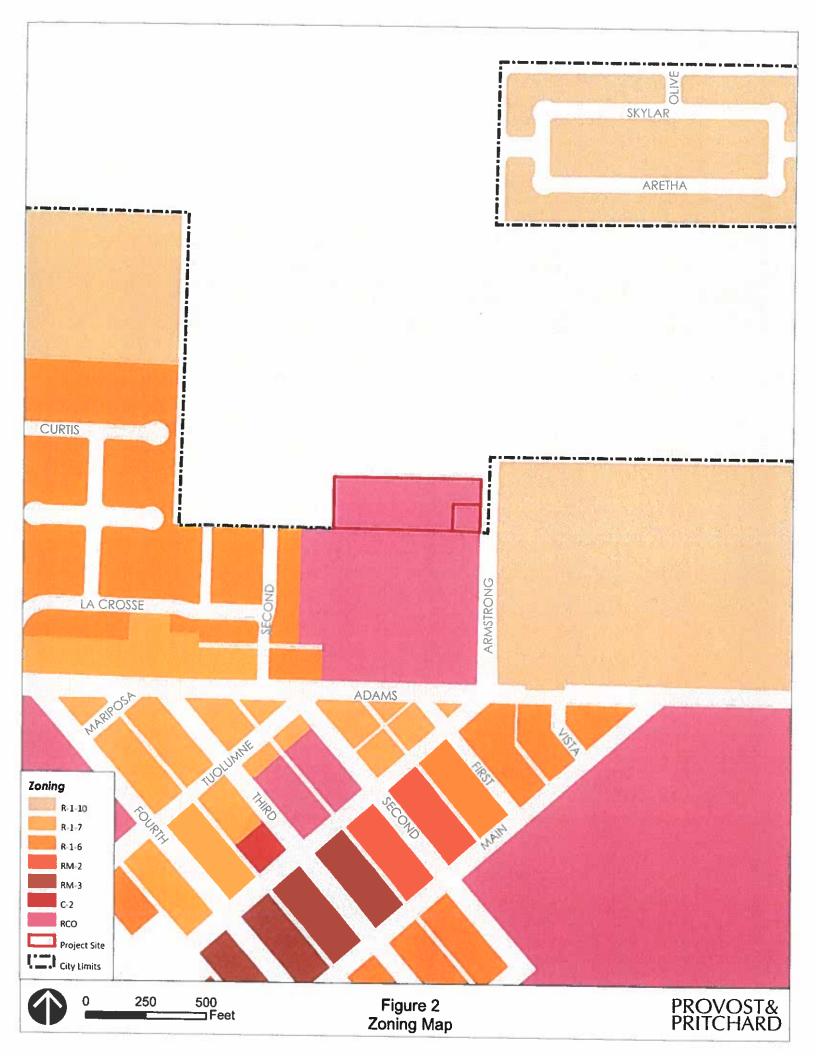
This process included the distribution of requests for comment from other responsible or affected agencies and interested organizations. The 30-day public review period for the Draft MND occurred May 13, 2021 to June 11, 2021. On June 16, 2021, Fowler USD adopted the MND for the Marshall Elementary School Expansion Project. Relevant documents may be found at the Fowler USD website at http://www.fowlerusd.org.

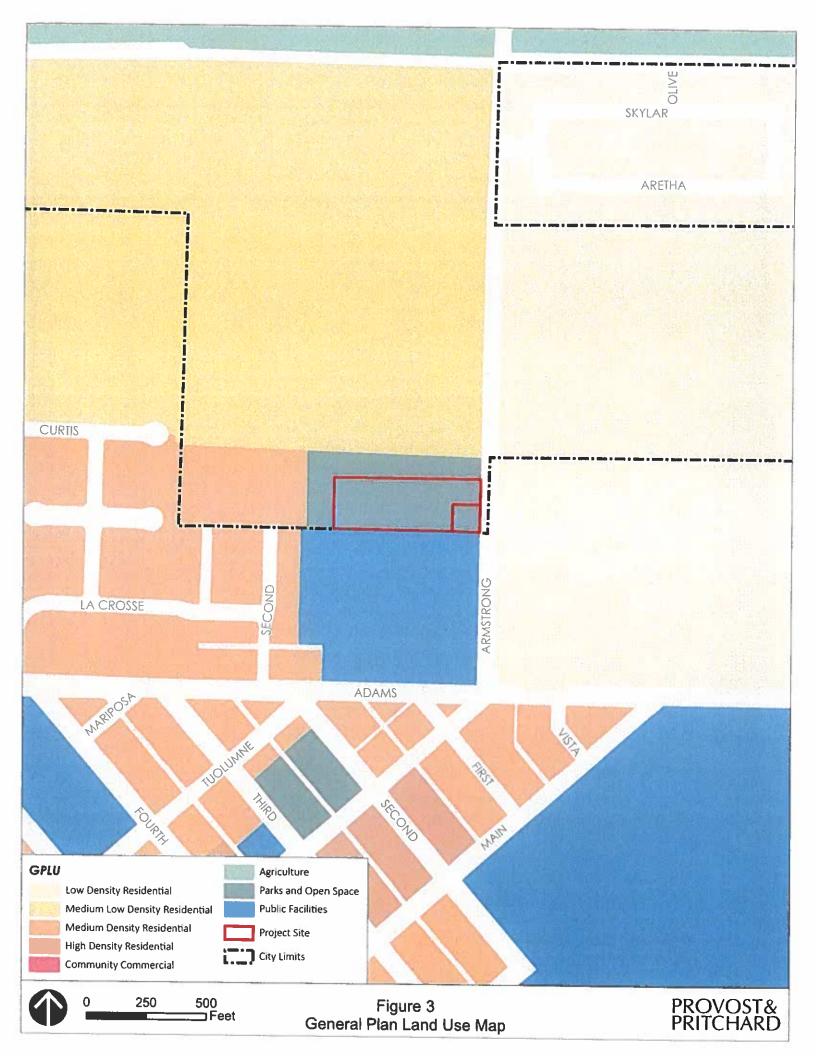
Fowler USD named the City of Fowler as a Responsible Agency pursuant to Section 15381 of the CEQA Guidelines in order to carry out Zoning (Prezoning) Ordinance Amendment No. 19-03 and Annexation Request No. 19-03. Pursuant to Section 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City of Fowler has prepared an Addendum to the 2021 Marshall Elementary School Expansion Project MND to facilitate the expansion of the annexation area. The addendum did not identify any new environmental impacts.

Attachments:

- A. Figure 1 Aerial Photo
- B. Figure 2 Zoning Map
- C. Figure 3 General Plan Land Use Map
- D. City Council Ordinance No. 2021-04







ORDINANCE NO. 2021-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOWLER AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY TO REFLECT A CHANGE OF ZONE FOR ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NOS. 340-130-09 AND 340-220-33

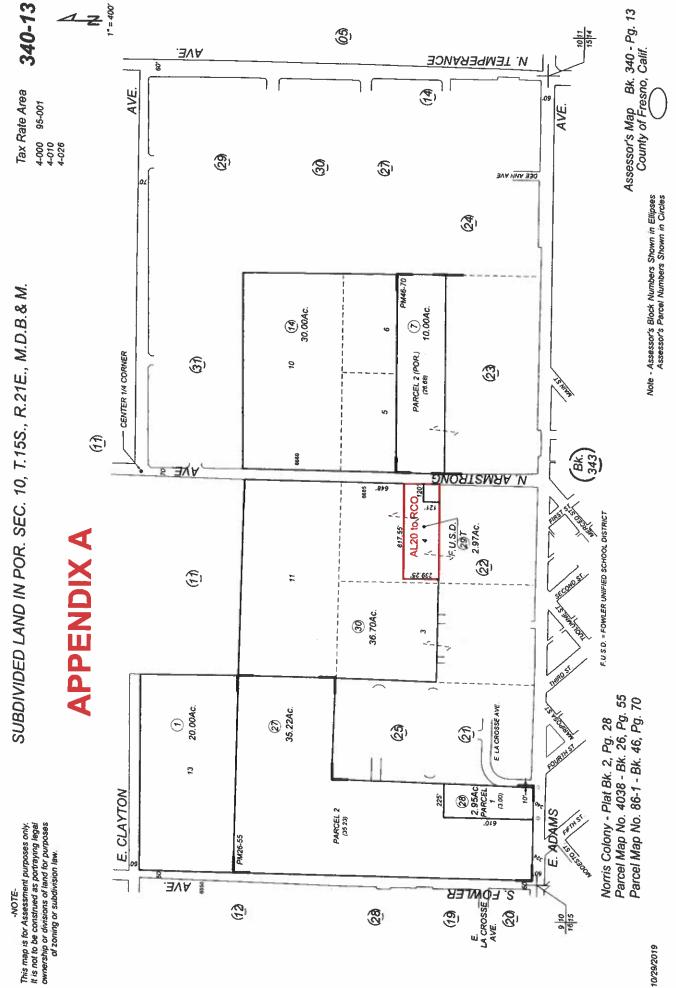
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOWLER DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

<u>SECTION 1.</u> The Official Zoning Map of the City of Fowler is hereby amended to indicate Assessor's Parcel Nos. 340-130-09 and 340-220-33 as RCO (Resource Conservation, Public Use, and Open Space) as indicated in Exhibit "A" hereto.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk is further directed to cause this ordinance or a summary of this ordinance to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated within the City of Fowler, within fifteen (15) days after its adoption. If a summary of the ordinance is published, then the City Clerk shall cause a certified copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance to be posted in the office of the City Clerk at least five (5) days prior to the City Council meeting at which the ordinance is adopted and again after the meeting at which the ordinance is adopted. The summary shall be approved by the City Attorney.

2021 and w	d at a regular meeting of the City Council held on as adopted at a regular meeting of said Council
	, by the following vote, to wit:
AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSENT:	
ABSTAIN:	
	David Cardenas, Mayor
ATTEST:	
Angela Vasquez, Deputy City Clerk	





ITEM NO: 7-Ci

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2021

FROM:

David Peters, City Engineer

SUBJECT

Review alternatives and provide staff direction regarding potential request to Caltrans to add median treatment to the State Route 99 improvement project.

RECOMMENDATION

Select an alternative and direct staff to request adding median barrier treatments within Fowler city limits.

BACKGROUND

Caltrans is currently beginning construction on an improvement project on State Route 99 from Fowler to Selma to add additional lanes to the freeway. The project will construct a concrete median barrier in the area currently occupied by oleanders to accommodate the additional lane. The project will cost \$67M and will be completed by Fall 2023.

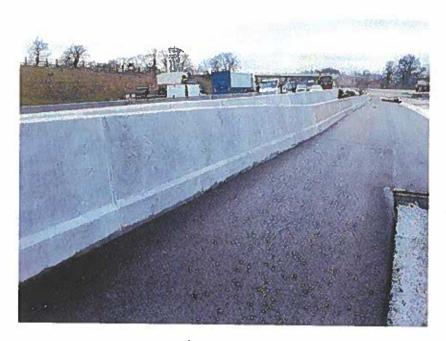
FISCAL IMPACT

None. The median treatments would be paid for as part of the Caltrans project

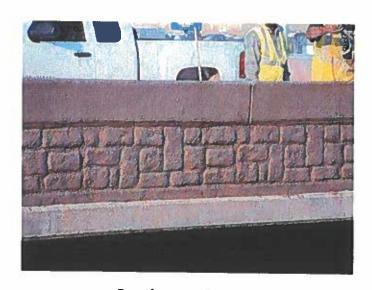
Attachments:

- Median barrier treatment options
- California Highway Barrier Aesthetics Caltrans 2002

MEDIAN BARRIER TREATMENT OPTIONS



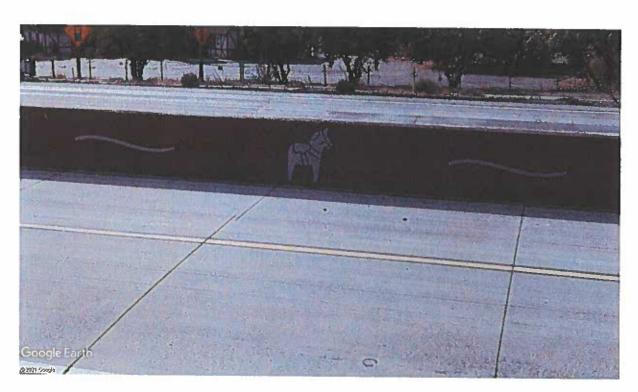
Plain Barrier



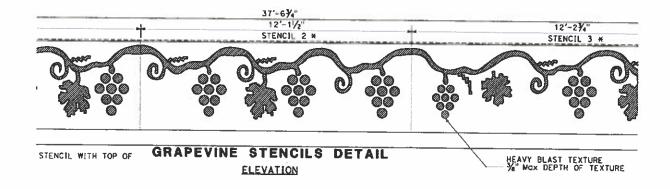
Continuous Pattern

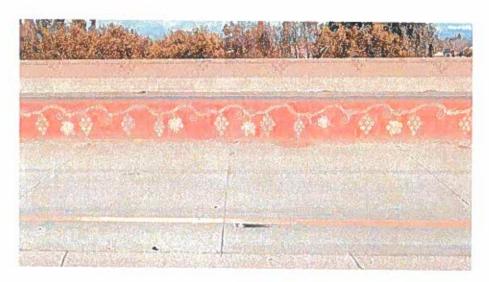


Decorative Stamp

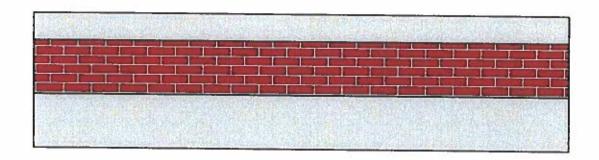


Kingsburg Dala Horse





Selma Median Treatment



Proposed Fowler Treatment



REPORT

June 2002 Edition 1a



CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY BARRIER AESTHETICS







California Highway Barrier Aesthetics

This report will familiarize designers with current barrier design options, and encourage appropriate aesthetic considerations to develop visually pleasing context sensitive solutions for highway projects. The development of alternative barriers that are aesthetically pleasing is a continuing process. The Division of Design, Office of State Landscape Architecture, Headquarters Traffic Operations, and Division of Engineering Services, Materials Engineering and Testing Services, Office of Structural Materials will continue to develop technical guidelines and guidance documents for alternative barriers and surface treatments for concrete barriers.

Technical guidelines allow integral color, paint, stain, and subtle textures to be incorporated with concrete barriers placed on highway transportation projects. These guidelines address highway corridor aesthetic issues, and respond to concerns from local communities and agencies for more barrier design alternatives that are context sensitive without compromising safety considerations.

Efforts are continuing to crash test additional aesthetic design solutions to increase the variety of options available for barrier treatments. These tests comply with the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 350 criteria. Crash testing is being performed on various formliner patterns for concrete barriers that mimic stone masonry or provide relief graphics into the surface of the concrete. Patterns and textures with subtle relief, set into the surface of the barrier or limited to the top portion of the barrier, have shown encouraging results and guidelines for their use have been approved. Alternatively, crash test results indicate that some patterns and textures with high relief extending from the base to the top of the barrier may cause excessive passenger compartment deformation to the vehicle. Future use of these high relief surface treatments is doubtful. The technical guidelines for use of textures on concrete barriers will continue to evolve based on crash test results, maintenance and construction issues.

There is additional cost associated with some alternative barriers and surface aesthetic treatments when compared to the Department's standard barriers. Designers should use discretion when selecting alternative designs. Local funding may be required to offset additional costs associated with alternative barrier designs. Barriers are available in several different types and materials providing an opportunity to select the most appropriate barrier for a particular condition. Barrier types and design considerations discussed in this report include:

- Thrie Beam Barrier
- Three-Cable Barrier
- Type 60 Concrete Barrier
 - Approved Concrete Barrier Aesthetics
 - Developing Textures and Patterns
- Timber Guardrail
- Precast Concrete Guardwall
- Stone Masonry Guardwall
- Barriers and Landscaping

The Thrie Beam Barrier and Type 60 Concrete Barrier are available in the Department's Standard Plans and Specifications. The other barrier types will require approval for use until such time they become approved standards. See "Attachment A" for information on the non-standard approval process. For further information on California Highway Barrier Aesthetics and the status of new design alternatives please contact the Office of State Landscape Architecture at (916) 653-3170, Headquarters Traffic Operations at (916) 654-5147, or Materials Testing and Engineering at (916) 227-7000.

Thrie Beam Barrier

The Thrie Beam barrier is widely used as a median barrier on California's roadways. It is relatively inexpensive to install when compared to other barriers. Typically, fewer drainage modifications are required than for placement of concrete barriers. Use of this barrier type may allow for preservation of existing median planting and can minimize visual impacts. Thrie Beam barrier may be aesthetically pleasing to some rural communities because of its less "urban" character. Design modifications to the Thrie Beam barrier, such as placing asphalt or concrete beneath the barrier to eliminate weed growth, are being reviewed by Traffic Operations for approval. Not only will this improve the visual appearance of the barrier, it will also eliminate the need for repetitive manual vegetation control by maintenance forces. To reduce maintenance costs, this barrier should not be used in medians less than 11-meters wide.

This barrier meets NCHRP Report 350 criteria.

Advantages

- Approved by the Department for use
- Standard Plans and Specifications available
- Minimal visual impact
- Rural character
- Accommodates small animal crossing
- Preserves/protects median planting

Disadvantages

- Not visually compatible in metropolitan areas
- Increased construction time
- Life cycle costs higher than rigid/concrete barriers
- Additional roadside maintenance tasks compared to Type 60 Concrete barrier



Costs (November 2001)

- \$61.00 per meter for Double Thrie Beam Barrier
- Maintenance cost is \$33.00 per meter each year for segments requiring repair (segments average 30 meters)

Three-Cable Barrier

The Three-Cable barrier has not been used in California because of maintenance concerns. Currently, considerations are being made on a case-by-case basis for temporary use only. Three-Cable barrier is flexible, consisting of three steel cables stretched between metal posts. This barrier requires a minimum of 7 meters of flat median area, free of woody or mounding vegetation to allow for deflection movement when hit.

The Three-Cable barrier's primary advantage is quick installation and low initial cost. This system minimizes visual impacts, requires little or no drainage modifications, and fits well visually in rural environments. This system should not be used with median plantings.

The Three-Cable barrier meets the crash test requirements of NRCHP Report 350 criteria, test level 3.



Advantages

- Electronic drawings and specifications are available
- Minimal visual impact
- Rural character
- Accommodates small animal crossing
- Low installation cost

Disadvantages

- Non-standard approval required
- Standard Plans and Specifications unavailable
- Not visually compatible in metropolitan areas
- Life cycle costs higher than rigid/concrete barriers
- Additional roadside maintenance tasks compared to Type 60 Concrete barrier
- Inoperative once hit



Three-Cable barrier installed in Oregon.

Disadvantages of the Three-Cable barrier system are the maintenance costs required, as compared to other barrier types. Some maintenance tasks include routine checking of cable tension and repair of long runs of barrier when hit. repair is necessary because the barrier can become inoperative once hit. The Three-Cable barrier is not recommended on tight curves, high truck traffic routes, or any locations where frequent hits are expected. Maintenance personnel are not trained, nor staffed to manage this type of system. Use of this barrier system may require approval from the Maintenance Division

Costs (October 2001)

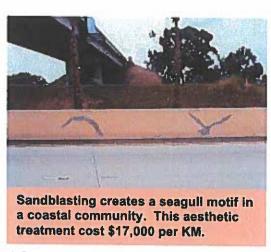
- \$26.00 per meter
- Maintenance cost is \$24.00 per meter each year for segments requiring repair (segments average 30 meters)
- High life cycle cost when compared to other barrier types

Type 60 Concrete Barrier

Approved Concrete Barrier Aesthetics

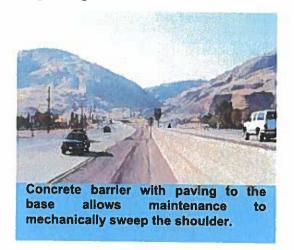
The Type 60 Concrete barrier has been used increasingly by the Department as median widths have become narrower. This coincides with safety concerns becoming more prevalent for maintenance workers and motorists. The Type 60 concrete barrier offers several positive attributes, including long life and durability, low maintenance costs, less exposure for maintenance workers, a clean urban character, and aesthetic surface treatment capabilities. Like the Thrie Beam barrier, two rows of Type 60 Concrete barrier can be placed in a wide median to preserve existing median planting.

The Department currently approves the use of color admixtures, chemical staining, painting, acid etching, textures, and spraying with bituminous emulsion for a faux "granite" finish to improve the appearance of concrete barriers. Aesthetic treatments, such as sandblasting painted concrete to reveal graphic images, have been used to enhance the barrier appearance and respond to local concerns for context sensitive solutions.



Advantages

- Approved by the Department for use
- Standard Plans and Specifications available
- Aesthetic treatment for context sensitive designs
- Preserves/protects median planting
- Long life and durability
- Low maintenance cost
- Existing barriers can receive aesthetic treatments



Concrete barriers have higher installation costs than Thrie Beam barriers and, in some cases, require extensive drainage modification. Retrofitting an existing barrier with superficial aesthetic treatments is less costly than installing a new barrier.

Some communities consider these barriers to have a negative visual impact because the mass and form are not compatible with the surrounding landscape.

Disadvantages

- May require drainage modifications
- High installation costs

Costs (November 2001)

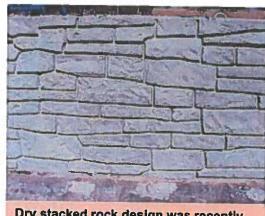
- \$150 per meter, aesthetic treatments are additional
- Maintenance cost of aesthetic treatments not known

Type 60 Concrete Barrier

Developing Textures and Patterns

A wide array of design possibilities are being developed and crash tested to allow for textures, patterns, and graphics that enhance the appearance of Type 60 Concrete barriers. Before authorizing textured surface treatments to concrete barriers, the proposed treatments must be tested for safety, and reviewed for constructability and maintainability issues. The Department's Engineering Services Division of Materials Engineering and Testing Services, Office of Structural Materials performs these tests by crashing a vehicle, under controlled conditions, into a section of the textured concrete barrier.

The results of each crash test are analyzed and a determination is made as to whether the textured barrier passes or fails established performance criteria - NCHRP Report 350 criteria, test level 3. From crash test results the Department has developed preliminary technical guidelines for the use of textures on concrete barriers. The Department will continue to perform additional crash tests to further expand these preliminary technical guidelines.



Dry stacked rock design was recently crash tested and received approval for use in California.



Pending approved design guidelines, graphics could become an integral part of concrete barrier design.

The next few pages of this report discuss textures that designers may use to address site specific, context sensitive solutions for concrete barriers. Specific textures will not be approved or disapproved but the depth, protrusions, angle of patterns, etc. will be governed by technical guidelines.

Details of recent test results are contained in the Department Study #F2001T117 "Interim Report, Crash Testing of Various Textured Barriers." Contact Materials Testing and Engineering at (916) 227-7000 for a copy.

Type 60 Concrete Barrier

Developing Textures and Patterns, continued

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has granted approval (December 2002) of the Department's technical guidelines for textures and patterns for use on Type 60 Concrete barriers. Departmental approval is needed for the use of textures and patterns on every project. The following surface textures and patterns have been crash tested:

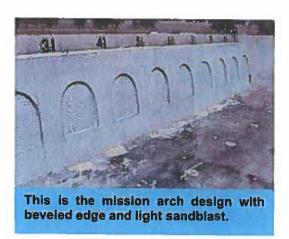
- Rock cobble pattern above 610 mm of smooth surface barrier. PASSED CRASH TEST
- "Mission Arch" pattern. PASSED CRASH TEST
- Dry stacked rock pattern. PASSED CRASH TEST
- Fractured granite pattern. PASSED CRASH TEST
- Rock cobble pattern on the entire face of the barrier. FAILED CRASH TEST
- Diagonal flute pattern. FAILED CRASH TEST

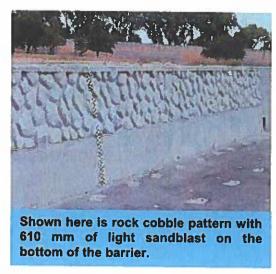
The preliminary technical guidelines allow:

Light to heavy sandblast textures.

Any pattern or texture with a maximum relief of 64 mm or less, located 610 mm or higher above the base of the barrier; the lower 610 mm shall be smooth or a "light to heavy sand blast" texture. The pattern or texture on the upper face of the barrier shall have smooth (rounded or beveled) leading edges to prevent vehicle snagging.

Geometric patterns inset into the face of the barrier 25mm or less. Chamfered or beveled edges to prevent vehicle snagging, especially on the downstream edges. Such patterns shall not feature long upward-climbing edges that could contribute to wheel climb.





Advantages

- Aesthetic treatment for context sensitive solutions
- · Preserves/protects median planting
- Long life and durability

Disadvantages

- Non-standard approval required
- Standard Plans and Specifications not available
- Increases installation costs
- Increases construction time
- Additional repair work to match textures

Costs (June 2002)

- \$115 to \$150 per meter, depending upon aesthetic treatments and color. The average price of a Concrete Barrier (type 60) is \$91.39 per meter.
- Maintenance cost of aesthetic treatments not known

Timber Guardrail

The Timber Guardrail is a rustic alternative to the standard metal beam guardrail. The Timber Guardrail is in use along Federal highways on the East Coast and is approved for use on California highways. A steel plate provides the needed tensile strength with the wood members providing a rustic appearance. The wood block-outs help with the crash worthiness of the system. This guardrail has no approved terminal design. The end treatment will need crash cushions, must be buried in the embankment, or will require some other approved terminal design.

There are two versions of this system, both are accepted for use on Federal highways by the FHWA, and meet the NRCHP Report 350, test level 3:

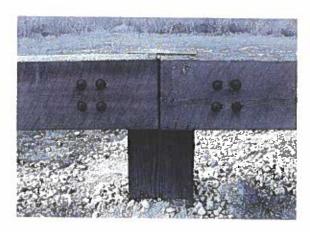
Type 1 Steel Backed Timber Guardrail (SBTG) with wooden post

Type 2 Merritt Parkway Guardrail (MPG) with steel post

Both the Steel Backed Timber Guardrail and Merritt Parkway Guardrail are approved for design speeds of 100 km/h and less.

The potential for corrosion of the nongalvanized steel elements of the guardrails are a concern in coastal settings or areas with high rainfall. The Department's policy is that in areas of eight inches or greater annual rainfall galvanized steel posts must be used. The galvanized steel may be painted to blend with the timbers. Further information including electronic drawings. specifications and other information on this barrier can be found www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov.

Contact Headquarters Traffic Operations at (916) 654-5147 with specific questions regarding Timber Guardrails.





Advantages

- Electronic drawings and specifications are available
- Minimal visual impact
- Rural character
- Accommodates small animal crossing
- Preserves/protects median planting

Disadvantages

- Non-standard approval required
- Standard plans and specifications not available
- Life cycle costs higher than rigid/concrete barriers
- Additional roadside maintenance tasks, compared to Type 60 Concrete barrier
- Wood safety devises may be subject to burning

Costs (January 2002)

- \$160 per meter. Cost is based on installations in the Eastern US and may vary for California
- Maintenance cost not known; likely to be higher than metal beam guardrail

Precast Concrete Guardwall

This barrier system is being reviewed for approval by the Department's Highway Safety Features New Products Committee for use on California's highway system. This precast concrete guardwall has not yet been used in California due to very high construction costs. This guardrail has no approved terminal design. The end treatment will need crash cushions, must be buried in the embankment, or will require some other approved terminal design.

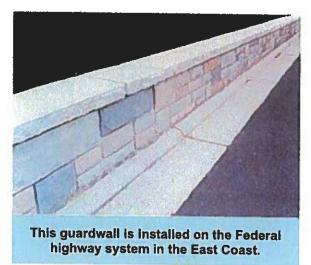
The finish treatment is a simulated stone surface on both sides and ends of the guardwall. The surface of the guardwall is stained to simulate individual stones. The design details include a precast concrete mowing strip. This strip may be placed in medians that will not be paved to the face of the guardwall. To meet federal standards, the Precast Concrete Guardwall must be fabricated in a precast concrete production facility certified by the National Precast Concrete Association.

The Precast Concrete Guardwall has been crash tested and meets the requirements of NCHRP Report 230. Though never crash tested to NRCHP Report 350 test level 3, the FHWA has accepted this guardwall for use on Federal highways. This artificial stone system is approved for design speeds of 100km/h or less. Further information regarding this barrier, such as electronic drawings, specifications and other information, may be found at www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov.



Advantages

- Electronic drawings and specifications are available
- Rural character
- Aesthetic treatment for context sensitive solutions
- Long life and durability



Disadvantages

- Non-standard approval required
- Standard Plans and Specifications not available
- Requires drainage modifications
- Very high installation costs
- Additional roadside maintenance tasks compared to Type 60 Concrete barrier

Costs (February 2002)

- \$740 per meter. Shipping cost to the project site from the manufacturer is not included in this estimate
- Maintenance cost is not known

Stone Masonry Guardwall

The Stone Masonry Guardwall was approved by the Department's Highway Safety Features New Products Committee for use on California's highway system. The Stone Masonry Guardwall has not yet been used in California due to the very high construction cost. The stone fascia, mortared in place, provides a natural appearance and can incorporate local rock to match the surrounding area. The Federal Lands Highway Office must approve any modifications to Federal Lands Highway Standards for the Stone Masonry Guardwall. This guardrail has no approved terminal design. The end treatment will need crash cushions, must be buried in the embankment, or will require some other approved terminal design.

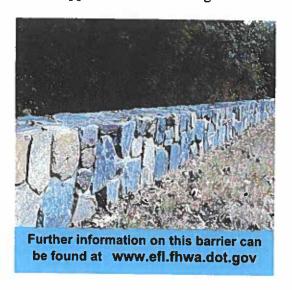
The Stone Masonry Guardwall consists of a concrete core faced and capped with natural stone. The Stone Masonry Guardwall has been crash tested and meets the requirements of NCHRP Report 230 and is accepted by the FHWA for use on the federal highway system. The FHWA has accepted it to meet the requirements of NRCHP Report 350 criteria, test level 3. This barrier system is approved for design speeds of 100 km/h or less.

Specifications define maximum projections to be 38 mm beyond the neat line, 50 mm deep joints, and mortar beds 50 to 75 mm thick. Stone faces with critical dimensions greater than those listed above are not considered crashworthy. A smooth-faced wall with shallower projections, and rake joints and beds is also approved.



Advantages

- Electronic drawings and specifications are available
- Minimal visual impact
- Rural character
- Context sensitive solutions
- Preserves/protects median planting
- Long life and durability



Disadvantages

- Non-standard approval required
- Standard plans and specifications not available
- Requires drainage modifications
- Very high installation costs
- Increased construction time
- Additional roadside maintenance tasks compared to Type 60 Concrete barrier

Costs (February 2002)

- \$830 per meter
- Cost will vary depending upon the type of rock used. Availability of rock and proximity to the project area will be a factor. Labor costs may significantly impact the actual construction cost.
- Maintenance cost not known; likely to be high

Median Barriers and Landscaping

Existing median planting, mostly oleander shrubs, were planted in California beginning in the 1950's and have become an asset to the Department and the communities in which they grow. Median plantings provide glare screening for headlights of oncoming traffic, provide greenery and flowers, and minimize the visual width of the roadway. When roadway-widening projects threaten the removal of these plantings, local communities often voice concerns for preservation of the planting.



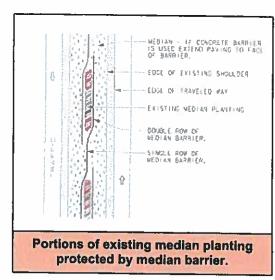


Median planting provides aesthetics in rural areas where no other highway planting exists.

The Department considers median planting to be an asset to the highway corridor and recommends removal only when other viable options are not available. Median barriers are being used when necessary and where feasible to protect these shrubs. Median barriers, regardless of system type, can be installed to preserve plantings, satisfying the desires of communities, and provide safety for maintenance workers and the traveling public. Options to median plantings should be considered, such as replacement of median planting with roadside planting along the right of way. The maintenance costs involved with median plantings are factors that must be considered.

During design of a median, consideration should be given to retaining all or portions of the existing planting. Healthy sections of planting can be protected with two rows of barriers, while unhealthy planting can be removed and a single barrier installed.

Only when the median width allows, the retention of existing median planting can be achieved by installing one row of barrier. When this option is possible, significant cost savings will be achieved for both the construction project and for long-term maintenance. Traffic Operations must be consulted to insure that all current standards are met.



Non-Standard Approval Process

Some of the barriers in this report are currently not approved as standards by the Department for use on California's highway system. However, all of the unapproved barriers included in this report are being reviewed for approval.

There are three categories of non-standard barriers:

- 1) Barriers that are not in the Standard Plans but which are approved by the Department. For example, this would include Type 60 Concrete barrier with a rock texture called "dry stacked."
- 2) Barriers that have been accepted by FHWA but have not been approved by the Department. For example, this would include the Stone Masonry Guardwall and Pre-cast Concrete Guardwall.
- 3) Barriers with merit that have not been crash tested or approved by either agency. This includes any new product that would be proposed as a barrier, or a change or modification to an approved barrier that could affect the safety and crash worthiness of the barrier.

Depending upon the proposal, a series of requirements need to be met prior to receiving approval to install a non-standard barrier on a project. For some proposals, such as texture on a Type 60 Concrete barrier that conforms to the approved guidelines, the proposal would not require steps one through four. A simplified version of the approval process is:

- 1) The barrier must meet crash test criteria established by NRCHP Report 350.
- 2) Once a proposed barrier has passed the crash testing criteria then it must be accepted by the FHWA for use on the Federal Highway system. Typically, if FHWA accepts a barrier, they will also participate in the funding of that element when it is included on a capital improvement project that has federal participation.
- 3) After the barrier has been accepted by the FHWA, then it must be reviewed and approved by the Caltrans Highway Safety Features New Products Committee (HSFNPC) before it can be considered for use on California's highway system. This process allows various Department Divisions, such as, Office of State Landscape Architecture, Headquarters Traffic Operations, Construction, Maintenance, and Structures, the opportunity for review and comment on the proposal. For more information on the HSFNPC and their role, contact the Chairperson of the HSFNPC at (916) 654-2465.
- 4) Once a non-standard barrier has been reviewed by the HSFNPC, the committee's conclusions and recommendations are forwarded to Headquarters Traffic Operations for a final recommendation. If the proposal is acceptable, a letter of approval for use is signed by the Chief, Division of Traffic Operations. Depending on the proposal, the non-standard barrier may be approved as a pilot or may require a letter of approval to be signed by the District Director.
- 5) Once a non-standard barrier has been approved for use, non-standard plans and specifications will require review and approval from the various district functional units and the Headquarters office that is the "owner" of the Standards, such as, Structures Office of Design, or Office State Landscape Architect

Once these criteria are met, a non-standard barrier may be included in a highway project.