

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR THE GREAT CALIFORNIA DELTA TRAIL CLARKSBURG BRANCH LINE
EXTENSION PROJECT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO, YOLO
COUNTY, YOLO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT, AND DELTA
PROTECTION COMMISSION**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“MOU”) FOR THE GREAT CALIFORNIA DELTA TRAIL CLARKSBURG BRANCH LINE EXTENSION PROJECT (“TRAIL”) is entered into effective this _____ day of _____, 2024 (“Effective Date”), by and between the **CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO (“CITY”), YOLO COUNTY (“COUNTY”), YOLO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT**, known as the Yolo Transportation District (“YTD”), and **DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION (“Commission”)**. CITY, COUNTY, YCTD, and Commission will each be referred to herein as a “Party” or collectively as the “Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition”.

BACKGROUND

The TRAIL is a 13.4-mile partially completed public Class I multi-use recreation trail and bicycle commuting corridor that is planned to extend between the Barge Canal Trail in central West Sacramento at Locks Drive to Clarksburg, a census-designated community in Yolo County. The alignment for this trail follows the former Yolo Shortline Railroad, part of the former Sacramento Northern Railroad right-of-way purchased by CITY in 2005 from Sierra Northern Railway through the process described in the National Trails System Act. The TRAIL (both existing and proposed segments) is identified in trail and active transportation plans prepared by CITY, COUNTY, and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), and has been identified in The Great California Delta Trail Master Plan as part of the Great California Delta Trail linking San Francisco Bay, Delta, and Central Valley communities from San Pablo Bay to the American River. The Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition agree that this TRAIL will not only directly benefit the communities it traverses, but the greater mega-region and California as a whole by facilitating recreation, public education, fitness, clean mobility, economic opportunity, and social and technological connectivity.

RECITALS

- A. WHEREAS, CITY, a municipality within Yolo County, acquired right-of-way for the Clarksburg Branch Line Trail from milepost 90.5 within the City of West Sacramento to a point south of Pumphouse Road in Yolo County for the purpose of converting the corridor from an active rail line to a multi-use trail pursuant to 16 USC 1247(d); and
- B. WHEREAS, COUNTY, a California County, governs the unincorporated land through which a portion of the proposed TRAIL alignment is located, from the CITY's southern border to the community of Clarksburg, and generally builds and maintains trail infrastructure within unincorporated Yolo County; and
- C. WHEREAS, YCTD a County Transportation District, is responsible for managing congestion and providing consolidated transportation services for Yolo County and

- is currently preparing an active transportation plan for the County's unincorporated areas; and
- D. WHEREAS, Commission is an independent State agency charged with developing and adopting the Great California Delta Trail Master Plan, in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and the proposed TRAIL segment will advance its mandate to oversee implementation of a continuous regional recreation corridor that will link the San Francisco Bay communities' trail systems with those existing and planned in Yolo and Sacramento Counties; and
- E. WHEREAS, The Parties refer to themselves collectively as the Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition and have agreed to pursue the implementation of the proposed TRAIL segment between West Sacramento and Clarksburg; and
- F. WHEREAS, the Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition have formed a partnership to cooperatively seek grant funding for the TRAIL project from the SACOG Carbon Reduction Program and other funding agencies; and
- G. WHEREAS, each member of the Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition have agreed to contribute, where feasible, financial and in-kind resources to plan, develop and maintain the TRAIL and to leverage available resources to obtain grant funding; and
- H. WHEREAS, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments has released a notice of funding opportunity for the Carbon Reduction Program ("CRP") that supports efforts that reduce carbon, including advancing implementation of the Class I regional trail network.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The TRAIL Project will include required steps of project planning and design for a multi-use trail connecting the City of West Sacramento to the unincorporated community of Clarksburg in Yolo County. The Project segment of the TRAIL from the southern boundary of CITY to Clarksburg will be approximately 6.6 miles long. The total length of the TRAIL after completion will be 13.4 miles.

The TRAIL corridor is currently owned by the CITY to Pumphouse Road in Yolo County. The route of the TRAIL from the end of City-owned right-of-way at Pumphouse Road to Clarksburg will be explored by the Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition through an extensive community engagement process, including the communities of West Sacramento and Clarksburg, and will consist of evaluating alignment alternatives within the former Yolo Short Line rail right-of-way that served the Old Sugar Mill property, along the former Sacramento Northern Railroad corridor to Willow Point Road, and/or on separated bikeways along Pumphouse Road or Willow Point Road. Viable alternatives that meet the objectives of the TRAIL project will be considered and evaluated through a collaborative community process. The Project will include the following tasks:

- Conceptual planning and engineering (10% design) including accommodations for equestrians, commuter and recreation bicyclists, pedestrians, storm drainage, and communication utilities.

- Alternative Alignment Identification and evaluation from end of City-owned right-of-way to Clarksburg community.
- Complete Project Approvals and Environmental Document (PA&ED) including preliminary engineering (30% design), environmental analysis and documentation, permitting, and preliminary right-of-way activities consistent with California Department of Transportation (“Caltrans”) Local Area Procedures Manual.
- Identify path to secure right-of-way to reach Clarksburg from the end of City-owned right-of-way including targeted engagement with current land holder(s)
- Engage adjacent property owners, business owners, and Clarksburg community leaders, residents and employees through Yolo Transportation District’s ongoing YATC project and TRAIL project.
- Targeted engagement with adjacent property owners over potential trail and agricultural interface issues.
- Engage communications utilities to use TRAIL right of way to extend high-speed data (fiber optic) connectivity and services to Clarksburg where it is currently not available.
- Complete Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) final engineering design phase (60%/90%/100% Design).
- Complete right-of-way phase and pre-construction bid documentation.
- Formalize trail maintenance responsibility and final ownership status and develop a long-term funding framework for operations and maintenance.
- Explore marketing and trail adoption concepts with local businesses including wineries for the Clarksburg Branch Line Trail, including the potential for a Yolo-Delta Vine Trail experience.
- Work with local tribal governments and historians to develop an educational component of the TRAIL Project, including interpretive and wayfinding sign program that incorporates tribal, railroad, and local community history.
- Develop a complete application to the Active Transportation Program to secure construction funds for TRAIL Project implementation.

2. PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the TRAIL Project is to engage the community and garner local support to develop a “shovel-ready” trail corridor that will:

- Expand regional recreation opportunities including equestrian, walking/jogging, and bicycling and facilitate improved community health and fitness by implementing the Sacramento Regional Trail Network, West Sacramento Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Master Plan, the Great California Delta Trail, the Yolo Active Transportation Corridors plan, and Yolo County Bikeway Master Plan.
- Reduce transportation emissions through implementation of a planned Class I multi-use trail extending from West Sacramento to Clarksburg that supports safer regional bicycle commuting and provides fiber-optic connectivity to Clarksburg that facilitates work-from-home to further reduce carbon emissions associated with regular commuting.

- Increase safety of bicyclists and pedestrians currently using South River Road for bicycle transportation and recreation. West Sacramento’s city limit from Clarksburg is currently 8.9 miles on S. River Road, with no designated bike lanes and often unsafe conditions. This TRAIL Project reduces that commute to a 6.4-mile vehicle-separated Class I connection.
- Incorporate inclusion and equity through engagement of local tribes and historians to develop an educational component of this TRAIL Project through the use of educational interpretive signs, wayfinding signs, and design elements that identify the history of local area tribes, the impact and history of the railroad along which this corridor was developed, and history of the local communities such as Coniston, Willow Point and Tasco (now Clarksburg); and Riverview, Jefferson, Westgate, and Bryte (now West Sacramento).
- Work with local organizations, businesses, area wineries, and grape growers to explore marketing and trail adoption concepts for the Clarksburg Branch Line Trail, including the potential for a Yolo-Delta Vine Trail experience, fun run/marathon/triathlon events, and other economic opportunities.

The purpose of this MOU is to allow the Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition to act collaboratively to implement the TRAIL Project utilizing CITY property outside the city limits of West Sacramento. The need for the MOU is to define the roles and responsibilities of each Party to the MOU and to enable the Parties to apply for funding cooperatively. The Parties, as provided in this MOU, will collaborate to obtain grant funding and provide matching resources where feasible and available, develop a leadership and delivery structure, define each Party’s role and expectations of participation, and establish a prospective project timeline.

3. PROJECT DELIVERY

Project delivery will be managed by CITY. The CITY will act as the lead applicant in grant applications and administer grants. Each Party shall endeavor to attend scheduled project meetings and shall respond in good faith and a timely manner for requests for assistance and information. Generally, the TRAIL project will proceed through a five-phase approach: 1) Conceptual planning and alternatives analysis, 2) Project Approvals and Environmental Document (PA&ED), 3) Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E), 4) Right of Way acquisition, and 5) Construction. Community outreach and engagement shall be an integral component of each phase. This MOU addresses Phases 1-3 of the Trail project. Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition responsibilities for Phases 1-3 include:

CITY:

- Grant Recipient, Project Implementation Lead (PA&ED through ROW)
- Prepare and submit SACOG Carbon Reduction Program grant application in cooperation with all parties
- Estimate real property value as potential in-kind match contribution toward grant funds received
- Seek letter of support from Congresswoman Matsui’s Office

- Contribute to project implementation, reviews, design discussion (PDT meetings), and public engagement participation

COUNTY:

- Seek letters of support from Supervisor Villegas, Congressman Thompson, Senators Butler and Padilla, Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry, and Senator Dodd
- Develop initial Operations & Maintenance framework in cooperation with CITY
- Contact telecoms for the opportunity to license a conduit in the ROW
- Contribute to project implementation, reviews, design discussion (PDT meetings), and public engagement participation

YCTD:

- Provide in-kind match in the form of public engagement in the YATC program
- Contribute to project implementation, reviews, design discussion (PDT meetings), and public engagement participation

Commission:

- Contributing \$50,000 in funds toward the required 11.47% local match
- Leading role in Community Outreach and Engagement to landowners
- Leading role in Community Outreach to Old Sugar Mill ownership
- Leading role in Community Outreach to Delta tourism businesses
- Guidance on Delta Trail Master Plan criteria for designation
- Contribute to project implementation, reviews, design discussion (PDT meetings)

By entering into this MOU, the Parties have agreed to contribute, where feasible, financial and in-kind resources to plan, develop and maintain the TRAIL, and to leverage available resources to obtain grant funding for all five TRAIL project phases. Accordingly, the Parties agree that if the TRAIL project is progressing successfully through Phase 3, they will work cooperatively in good faith to amend this MOU or enter into a subsequent agreement to address the remaining phases (Phases 4-5) and the Parties' respective responsibilities for such phases, as well as post-construction responsibilities.

4. ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE

The Parties agree to the following timeline:

Carbon Reduction Program grant application submittal: February 29, 2024

Anticipated Carbon Reduction Program grant award date: June 20, 2024

Obligate Carbon Reduction Program award by: June 30, 2025

Complete Alternatives Analysis and Conceptual Design: March 2026

Submit FY 26.27 ATP Cycle 8 Construction Funding Application: June 2026

Complete PA&ED and Pre-R/W Project Development Phases: March 2028

Complete PS&E and R/W Phases: December 2029

Expend Carbon Reduction Program award/Project Closeout: September 30, 2030

5. WITHDRAWAL OF A PARTY; TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated in accordance with the following:

A. Any Party, without cause, shall have the right, at the Party's sole discretion, to withdraw from this agreement by providing one hundred eighty (180) days' written notice to the other Yolo-Delta Trail Coalition agencies. Local match contributions and in-kind contributions expended toward the Project are non-refundable/non-reimbursable.

B. Upon completion of the TRAIL Project as determined by completion of the Project phases identified in this MOU.

6. NOTICES

All notices and other communications under this MOU must be in writing and will be deemed to have been duly given (i) on the date of delivery, if delivered personally to the party to whom notice is given, or if made by email directed to the party to whom notice is to be given at the email address listed below, or (ii) at the earlier of actual receipt or the second business day following deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid. Notices and other communications must be directed to the parties at the addresses shown below. A party may change its person designated to receive notice, its email address, or its address from time to time by giving notice to the other party in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Article.

To CITY: City of West Sacramento
 Community Development Department
 Attn: Jason McCoy
 Transportation Division Manager
 1110 W. Capitol Avenue
 West Sacramento, CA 95691
 Email: mccoyj@cityofwestsacramento.org

To COUNTY: Yolo County
 Community Services Department
 Attn: Todd Riddiough
 Director of Public Works
 625 Court Street
 Woodland, CA 95695
 Email: todd.riddiough@yolocounty.org

To YCTD: Yolo County Transportation District
Attn: Brian Abbanat
Acting Director of Planning
350 Industrial Way
Woodland, CA 95776
Email: babbanat@yctd.org

To Commission: Delta Protection Commission
Attn: Bruce Blodgett Executive Director
2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 200
West Sacramento, CA 95691
Email: bruce.blodgett@delta.ca.gov

7. MODIFICATION

No waiver, alteration, modification, or termination of this MOU will be valid unless made in writing and signed by the authorized representatives of the parties hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this MOU to be executed by their respective duly-authorized representative as of the Effective Date.

CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO

COUNTY OF YOLO

By: _____

By: _____

Aaron Laurel, City Manager

Gerardo Pinedo, Chief Administrative Officer

YOLO TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

By: _____

By: _____

Autumn Bernstein, Director

Bruce Blodgett, Director