



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
July 23, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
 Submitted by: Terrance Davis, Director of Public Works  
 Subject: Contract: Alta Planning & Design for Adeline Street Transportation Improvements Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Alta Planning & Design for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies for the Adeline Street Transportation Improvements Project for an amount not-to-exceed \$1,256,120.

SUMMARY

The attached Resolution allows the City to enter into a contract with Alta Planning & Design to begin the first stages of redesigning Adeline Street between Ashby Avenue and the City of Oakland border using concepts approved by the Council in November 2022 and December 2020. This project will further the goals of the Berkeley Strategic Transportation Plan, Bicycle Plan, Pedestrian Plan, Vision Zero Action Plan, Climate Action Plan, Age-Friendly Berkeley Action Plan and Adeline Corridor Specific Plan, by developing transit, pedestrian, and bicyclist improvements on Adeline Street. Funding for this project has been awarded through a grant from the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC). Per the grant requirements, preliminary engineering and environmental clearance must be completed, and all grant funding must be spent by December 31, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

This contract is primarily funded by a \$1,095,000 Alameda CTC Comprehensive Investment Plan (CIP) grant (Capital Grant – Local Fund 307). Receipt of the awarded grant was approved by the Berkeley City Council on June 25, 2024. The contract includes a total of \$161,120 in local funds from direct local distribution transportation sales tax Measure BB Local Streets and Roads Fund 134. These local funds include the Alameda CTC required 11.47% grant match of \$144,076. This project budget (including the recently received Local Fund 307 and Measure BB Local Streets and Roads Fund 134) will be included in the amendment to the first annual appropriations ordinance (AAO1) in the FY 2025 Budget. The \$1,256,120 contract amount includes a 10% contingency.

Alameda CTC CIP Grant Award (Capital Grant - Local Fund 307):	\$1,095,000
Local funds incl. 11.47% grant match (Measure BB Fund 134):	\$161,120
<b>Total Contract:</b>	<b>\$1,256,120</b>

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In 2021 and 2023, the City was awarded grant funding from the Alameda County Transportation Commission Comprehensive Investment Plan to scope and develop preliminary engineering plans for a project on Adeline Street from Ashby Avenue (adjacent to the Ashby BART station) to the southern City limits. The Adeline Street Transportation Improvements Project would construct safety improvements for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders, and repurpose two of the existing general-purpose traffic lanes in order to construct protected bikeways and opportunities for public space, including space for a pedestrian plaza on the west side of Adeline Street at the Ashby BART station.

In July 2022, the City issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), Specification No. 22-11526-C, seeking qualified firms to provide engineering services for the Adeline Street Transportation Improvements Project.

Alta Planning & Design was selected out of the five proposals received from qualified firms. Proposals were evaluated by a panel of City Staff using a set of pre-established criteria that included the City local vendor preference policy and the Alameda CTC Local Business Contract Equity (LBCE) program. The proposal and interview with Alta Planning & Design project personnel demonstrated that their team is well-qualified to provide the City with the needed project management, preliminary engineering, community outreach and engagement support, and complete environmental certification for the Project.

Per grant requirements, preliminary engineering/environmental studies must be completed, and funds from Alameda CTC must be spent by December 31, 2026. The City will need to seek additional funding to complete Final Design and Construction of this project.

The Adeline Street Transportation Improvements Project advances the City’s Strategic Goals to (1) provide state-of-the-art, well-maintained infrastructure, amenities, and facilities; (2) foster a dynamic, sustainable, and locally-based economy; (3) create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city; and (4) be a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

BACKGROUND

The Adeline Street Transportation Improvements Project will scope and develop preliminary engineering plans and conduct environmental analysis for pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit improvements on approximately 0.55 miles of Adeline Street from just north of Ashby Avenue to the southern City limits (King Street/62nd

Street/Stanford Avenue/ Martin Luther King Jr Way). This project supports plans for transit-oriented development (TOD) on the Ashby BART station site. As part of the project, two of the four existing traffic lanes adjacent to Ashby BART will be repurposed to provide space for a new pedestrian plaza that could accommodate the needs of the Berkeley Flea Market, which currently uses the BART parking lot west of Adeline Street. This project would repurpose two of the existing four traffic lanes south of Ashby BART, in order to construct a new protected bikeway that will close a crucial gap in the City's bicycle network, connecting neighborhood and commercial districts between the City and Oakland as well as creating safe walking and biking access to the Ashby BART station. Other proposed project improvements include repaired sidewalks, improved loading zones for businesses, upgraded traffic signals, and improved bus operations and bus stop amenities.

Council approved the overall concept design for the corridor as part of the approval of the Adeline Corridor Specific Plan on December 8, 2020, Resolution No. 69,642 N.S. Subsequently, Council approved preliminary concepts for the section of the project adjacent to Ashby BART through Resolution No. 70,622-N.S., the Adeline Street at Ashby BART Conceptual Design, at the November 29, 2022 Council Meeting. Data collection, public engagement, environmental analysis and preliminary engineering is expected to begin in summer 2024 and continue through the end of 2026. Following a robust public engagement process, internal Staff review, and the input of the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission and other City commissions, Staff anticipates bringing a concept design for this project to the Council for consideration late in 2026.

The project is divided into two sections based on geography. Section 1 is the area of Adeline Street adjacent to the Ashby BART Station which begins just north of Ashby Avenue and runs south to Martin Luther King Jr Way. Concepts for Section 1 were approved by the Council on November 29, 2022, through Resolution No. 70,622-N.S. Section 2 begins at Martin Luther King Jr Way and runs south to the Berkeley/Oakland border (King Street/62<sup>nd</sup> Street/Stanford Avenue/Martin Luther King Jr Way). Section 2 concepts are detailed in the 2020 Adeline Corridor Specific Plan, adopted by the Berkeley City Council on December 8, 2020, through Resolution No. 69,642 N.S. Funding for Sections 1 and 2 was awarded as part of two separate Alameda CTC Comprehensive Investment Plan grants. However, because of the similarity of project scopes Alameda CTC has allowed the City to combine both projects into one funding agreement in order to minimize administrative burden and facilitate efficient project delivery.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Installing transit improvements, protected bikeways, and upgrading pedestrian crossings is anticipated to increase the numbers of people using transit, walking, and biking. This is consistent with the 2009 Climate Action Policy that calls for expanding and improving the City's bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. The 2009 Climate Action

Plan sets targets of reducing transportation emissions 33% below year 2000 levels by 2020, and 80% below year 2000 levels by 2050. The plan further states that transportation modes such as public transit, walking, and bicycling must become the primary means of fulfilling the City's mobility needs in order to meet those targets.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Alta will keep the Project on schedule for completion per grant requirements – conducting preliminary engineering, community engagement, and environmental studies – in order to meet the December 2026 grant deadline.

Successful completion of the Project requires contracted design and engineering services, as the City does not possess the specific technical expertise or staffing capacity to complete the work in-house.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Council could opt not to approve the consultant contract with Alta at this time and instead defer the item to a future Council agenda. This decision would delay the start of the Project, jeopardize funding with Alameda CTC, and would endanger the delivery of the Project by the milestones indicated in the grant funding agreement. Execution of this contract will enable the City to complete the project on schedule, as in-house staffing levels are insufficient to perform the necessary services.

CONTACT PERSON

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Janney Lockman, Associate Planner, Public Works (510) 981-7073

Attachment:

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: ALTA PLANNING & DESIGN FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION FOR ADELINE SOUTH TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS AND ADELINE AT ASHBY BART PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department has determined that consultant services are needed for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Certification for the Adeline South Transportation Improvements and Adeline at Ashby BART Projects (Project); and

WHEREAS, in July 2022, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Qualifications, Specification No. 22-11526-C, for the work of this Project, received five valid proposals by the due date of August 25, 2022, and reviewed the proposals according to the scoring criteria in the RFQ; and

WHEREAS, after a thorough review and evaluation of the proposals, Alta Planning & Design was found to be the highest-ranked firm and possess the requisite qualifications and experience and was deemed competent to perform the work of this Project; and

WHEREAS, the Project street was identified in the 2020 Berkeley Pedestrian Plan as one of the city's top 10 streets recommended for safety improvements and in the 2017 Bicycle Plan, which recommends protected bikeways on Adeline Street as part of a Complete Streets Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Adeline Corridor Specific Plan called for transportation safety improvements on Adeline Street; and

WHEREAS, the Adeline St. was identified as a high-injury street in the 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City has received \$1,095,000 from Alameda County Transportation Commission Comprehensive Investment Plan grant funding for preliminary engineering and environmental certification for this project; and

WHEREAS, \$161,120 of funding from Alameda County Transportation Sales Tax Measure BB Bicycle and Pedestrian Program (Fund 135) and Local Streets and Roads (Fund 134) is dedicated to this project and will be budgeted in the first amendment to the annual appropriations ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Alta Planning & Design needed for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Certification for the Adeline South Transportation Improvements and Adeline at Ashby BART Projects, for an

amount not to exceed \$1,256,120. A record signature copy of said contract and any amendments is to be on file in the City Clerk Department.