



City of Murrieta
Proposition 1B Bond Program
Project Number 0800000250

Report No. 18-2660-012
January 2018

Team Members

Jennifer Whitaker, Chief
Cheryl L. McCormick, CPA, Assistant Chief
Rick Cervantes, CPA, Manager
Jeremy Jackson, CPA, Supervisor
Bryan Nguyen

Final reports are available on our website at <http://www.dof.ca.gov>

You can contact our office at:

California Department of Finance
Office of State Audits and Evaluations
915 L Street, 6th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 322-2985



Transmitted via e-mail

January 4, 2018

Ms. Alice M. Lee, Chief
External Audits–Contracts, Audits and Investigations
California Department of Transportation
1304 O Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Lee:

Final Report—City of Murrieta, Proposition 1B Audit

The California Department of Finance, Office of State Audits and Evaluations, has completed its audit of the City of Murrieta's (City) Proposition 1B funded project listed below:

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>P Number</u>	<u>Project Name</u>
0800000250	P2535-0085	I-15/Los Alamos Road Overcrossing

The enclosed report is for your information and use. Because there were no audit findings requiring a response, we are issuing the report as final. This report will be placed on our website.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Rick Cervantes, Manager, or Jeremy Jackson, Supervisor, at (916) 322-2985.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Jennifer Whitaker, Chief
Office of State Audits and Evaluations

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Elena Guerrero, Acting Audit Manager, External Audits–Contracts, Audits and Investigations, California Department of Transportation
Ms. Kim Summers, City Manager, City of Murrieta
Ms. Karrie Swaine, Interim Deputy Director, Administrative Services, City of Murrieta
Mr. Robert Moehling, City Engineer, City of Murrieta
Mr. Roger Cunliffe-Owen, Project Manager, City of Murrieta

BACKGROUND, SCOPE, METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS

BACKGROUND

California voters approved the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 1B) for \$19.925 billion. These bond proceeds finance a variety of transportation programs. Although the bond funds are made available to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) upon appropriation by the Legislature, CTC allocates these funds to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to implement various programs.¹

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION¹

SLPP: \$1 billion of bond proceeds made available to the SLPP to finance a variety of eligible transportation projects nominated by applicant transportation agencies. For an applicant transportation agency to receive bond funds, Proposition 1B requires a dollar-for-dollar match of local funds.

CTC awarded \$3.5 million of Proposition 1B State-Local Partnership Program Account (SLPP) funds to the City of Murrieta (City) to remove and replace the existing non-standard two-lane overcrossing at Los Alamos Road/Interstate 15 with a four-lane structure that will meet current Caltrans vertical clearance requirements. The project was implemented by the City's Engineering Department, which is responsible for design, project management and inspection of capital improvement projects.² Construction for this project is complete.

SCOPE

As requested by Caltrans, the California Department of Finance, Office of State Audits and Evaluations, audited the project described in the Background section of this report. The audit period for the project is identified in Appendix A.

The audit objectives were to determine whether:

- Proposition 1B expenditures were incurred and reimbursed in compliance with the executed project agreements, Caltrans/CTC's program guidelines, and applicable state and federal regulations cited in the executed agreements.
- Deliverables/outputs were consistent with the project scope and schedule.
- Benefits/outcomes, as described in the executed project agreements or approved amendments, were achieved and adequately reported in the Final Delivery Report.

We did not assess the efficiency or effectiveness of program operations.

¹ Excerpts were obtained from the bond accountability website <https://bondaccountability.dot.ca.gov/>

² Excerpts were obtained from the City's website www.murrietaca.gov

The City's management is responsible for ensuring accurate financial reporting; compliance with contract provisions, state and federal regulations, and applicable program guidelines; and the adequacy of its job cost system to accumulate and segregate reasonable, allocable, and allowable expenditures. CTC and Caltrans are responsible for the state-level administration of the program.

METHODOLOGY

To achieve the audit objectives, we performed the following procedures:

- Examined the project files, project agreements, program guidelines, and applicable policies and procedures.
- Reviewed procurement records to ensure compliance with applicable local and state procurement requirements.
- Reviewed accounting records, progress payments, and cancelled checks.
- Selected a sample of expenditures to determine if they were project-related, properly incurred, authorized, and supported.
- Reviewed a sample of contract change orders to ensure they were within the scope of the project, properly approved, and supported.
- Evaluated whether other revenue sources were used to reimburse expenditures already reimbursed with bond funds.
- Verified the match requirement was met.
- Evaluated whether project deliverables/outputs were met by reviewing supporting documentation and conducting a site visit to verify project existence.
- Evaluated whether project deliverables/outputs were completed on schedule by reviewing project files, project agreements or amendments, and the Final Delivery Report.
- Determined whether project benefits/outcomes were achieved by comparing the actual project benefits/outcomes reported in the Final Delivery Report with the expected project benefits/outcomes described in the executed project agreements or amendments.
- Evaluated whether project benefits/outcomes were adequately reported in the Final Delivery Report by reviewing a sample of supporting documentation.

In conducting our audit, we obtained an understanding of internal control, including any information systems controls that we considered significant within the context of our audit objectives. We assessed whether those controls were properly designed, implemented, and operating effectively. No deficiencies in internal control were identified during our audit or determined to be significant within the context of our audit objectives.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

RESULTS

Proposition 1B expenditures were incurred and reimbursed in compliance with the executed project agreements, Caltrans/CTC's program guidelines, and applicable state and federal regulations cited in the executed agreements. In addition, the project deliverables/outputs were consistent with the project scope. Although the project was behind schedule, the City appropriately informed Caltrans and CTC of the delay.

Further, project benefits/outcomes were adequately reported in the Final Delivery Report. The City achieved the expected project benefits/outcomes as described in the executed project agreements or approved amendments. The *Summary of Projects Reviewed* is presented in Appendix A.

The following acronyms are used throughout Appendix A.

- California Department of Transportation: Caltrans
- California Transportation Commission: CTC
- City of Murrieta: City
- State-Local Partnership Program Account: SLPP

Summary of Projects Reviewed

Project Number	Expenditures Reimbursed	Project Status	Expenditures In Compliance	Deliverables/ Outputs Consistent	Benefits/ Outcomes Achieved	Benefits/ Outcomes Adequately Reported	Page
0800000250	\$3,500,000	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	A-1

Legend

C = Complete

Y = Yes

Project Number: 0800000250
Project Name: I-15/Los Alamos Road Overcrossing
Program Name: SLPP
Project Description: Remove and replace the existing non-standard two-lane overcrossing at Los Alamos Road/Interstate 15 with a four-lane structure that will meet current Caltrans vertical clearance requirements.
Audit Period: February 12, 2013 through May 15, 2015¹
Project Status: Construction is complete.

Schedule of Proposition 1B Expenditures

Proposition 1B Expenditures	Reimbursed
Construction	\$ 3,500,000
Total Proposition 1B Expenditures	\$ 3,500,000

Audit Results:

Compliance—Proposition 1B Expenditures

Proposition 1B expenditures were incurred and reimbursed in compliance with the executed project agreements, Caltrans/CTC's program guidelines, and applicable state and federal regulations cited in the executed agreements. In addition, the City met the match requirement.

Deliverables/Outputs

The construction phase for this project was completed in August 2015. At the time of our site visit in October 2017, project deliverables/outputs were consistent with the project scope. However, the project was behind schedule and completed 14 months late. The City appropriately updated Caltrans and CTC of the delay.

Benefits/Outcomes

The actual project benefits/outcomes were adequately reported in the Final Delivery Report. In addition, the City achieved the expected project benefits/outcomes as described in the executed project agreements or approved amendments.

Expected Benefits/Outcomes	Actual Benefits/Outcomes	Benefits/Outcomes Achieved
Eliminate a gap closure and improve circulation around the recently completed Murrieta Mesa High School.	Removed an existing two-lane constriction, also known as a gap closure, and constructed a bridge section that provides a four-lane roadway section and improves circulation around the Murrieta Mesa High School.	Yes
Widening the overpass will increase the level of service to the residents.	The Level of Service (LOS) increased from a LOS F (forced flow), which represents jammed conditions, to a LOS B (very good operation), which represents a stable flow.	Yes
Decrease response times for emergency vehicles.	Decreased response times for emergency vehicles, as the roadway increased from two-lanes to four-lanes.	Yes
Support the future widening of Interstate 15 that is currently identified in the Riverside County Transportation Commissions' Measure A program.	The new bridge overcrossing eliminated the existing non-standard structure with one that meets current vertical clearance requirements and accommodates the future widening of Interstate 15 that is currently identified in the Riverside County Transportation Commissions' Measure A program.	Yes

¹ The audit period end date reflects the billing period end date of the last reimbursement claim submitted to Caltrans.