

March 13, 2025

Nick Melloni and Richard Cannone  
City of Palm Desert  
73-510 Fred Waring Drive  
Palm Desert, CA  
92260

**Subject: Additional Services Proposal for Portola Interchange Study**

Dear Nick and Richard,

Fehr & Peers is pleased to submit this proposal for additional services to support the City's Circulation Element Update and further study of the Portola Avenue Interchange Project. Our understanding is that the proposed interchange at Portola Avenue has completed the Caltrans PA&ED and PS&E stages yet is on hold due to a lack of available funding. The City may be interested in continuing the project and would like to understand the next steps required for implementation. Additionally, the proposed development project at the northwest corner of Portola Avenue and Dinah Shore Drive is prompting the City to ensure the necessary right-of-way is preserved for future construction.

## Scope of Work

Fehr & Peers proposes working with Mark Thomas & Company, a civil engineering firm who has an extensive track record of working on Caltrans interchange projects in District 8 and assisting with infrastructure funding and cost estimating.

### Task 1: Meetings and Coordination

Fehr & Peers and Mark Thomas will meet virtually with City staff and any other relevant parties (e.g. CVAG, RCTC) up to three times to discuss project status, findings, revised cost estimates, and next steps for implementation. This scope also includes time for coordinating with relevant agencies. We anticipate this including a kick-off meeting to discuss our approach and verify all stakeholder's questions are addressed, one meeting to review the results, and one additional meeting that could include discussions with other stakeholders or presentations to Council.

### Task 2: Project Document and Cost Estimates Review

Mark Thomas will review the current project documents, including the PA&ED package and the PS&E package and identify any updates that are required. It is anticipated that, at a minimum, an environmental revalidation process would be required since the opening year and design year



horizons identified in the environmental document have changed. Additionally, the proposed design will be reviewed and compared to the California Highway Design Manual and other Caltrans design standards to determine any changes that need to be made.

Mark Thomas will also review the cost estimates prepared as part of the PS&E package and update the cost estimates to 2025 dollars. This will include an assessment of the current design and consideration of any value engineering that can be incorporated that may reduce construction costs.

### **Task 3: Funding Opportunities Review**

Mark Thomas will review relevant local, state, and federal infrastructure grant and funding opportunities to identify potential funding sources for construction. This will be delivered in the form of a funding opportunities matrix, summarizing each funding opportunity, relevant deadlines/application cycles, and the relative competitiveness of the project for grant funding.

### **Task 4: “No-Build” Review and Planning Level Cost Estimates**

Fehr & Peers and Mark Thomas will review the transportation impact study report for Classic Club Specific Plan (submitted January 2025) and/or any other recent transportation impact study provided by the City that does not assume the construction of the Portola Avenue interchange in the future year analysis. We will provide brief comments on the level of effort required to implement these improvements, including planning level cost estimates of these improvements. Please note that improvements at the Cook Street and/or Monterey Avenue interchanges would need to be fully analyzed through the Caltrans Project Development process.

### **Task 5: Documentation**

The findings, project implementation timeline, updated cost estimates, and a funding opportunities matrix will be summarized in a PowerPoint presentation that will be shared with the City and presented at one virtual meeting.

## **Fee and Schedule**

The current authorized amount for the Circulation Element Update is \$139,076. Fehr & Peers proposes an additional fee of \$20,000, which is broken down by task below. The total revised budget would be \$159,076.

<b>Task</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Task 1: Meetings and Coordination	\$3,000
Task 2: Project Document and Cost Estimate Review	\$5,000
Task 3: Funding Opportunities Review	\$5,000
Task 4: No Build Review and Planning Level Cost Estimates	\$5,000



Task 5: Documentation

\$2,000

Fehr & Peers can begin work on Task 1 upon receipt of written notice to proceed. Tasks 2 through 5 can be completed within six weeks following a kick-off call.

Sincerely,

FEHR & PEERS

Jason Pack, P.E.  
Principal

Brian Wolfe  
Project Manager

OC24-1083