



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
**Inter-Departmental Correspondence**

Board of Supervisors

**DATE:** February 16, 2006  
**BOARD MEETING DATE:** March 7, 2006  
**SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING:** None  
**VOTE REQUIRED:** Majority

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Steve Alms, Manager, Real Property Division

**SUBJECT:** Right of Way Contract and Grant of Easement to Caltrans in unincorporated La Honda for drainage repair along Highway 84.

**Recommendation**

Adopt a resolution:

- 1) authorizing the President of the Board to execute a Right of Way Contract and Easement Deed to the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), granting a drainage easement over property owned by the County in unincorporated La Honda and identified as assessor's parcel 078-081-020; and
- 2) authorizing the County Manager, or designee, to execute any deeds, notices, consents, approvals, permits, escrow instructions and documents in connection with the Agreement.

**Vision Alignment**

**Commitment:** The transfer keeps the commitment of Responsive, Effective and Collaborative Government.

**Goal(s):** 22: County and local governments effectively communicate, collaborate and develop strategic approaches to issues affecting the entire County. Executing the contract and granting the easement contribute to this goal by allowing Caltrans to provide ongoing maintenance that will improve the safety and security of County residents and their property in an area prone to flooding and mudslides.

**Background**

In 1959, Caltrans took control of Highway 84, which prior to that date was a county

road. Certain parcels along the Highway 84 right-of-way that were acquired by the County for road purposes were not transferred to the State when it took jurisdiction over the road. One of these parcels (APN 078-081-020) is located along the north edge of Highway 84, approximately 1-1/2 miles west of Highway 35. In 1992, the County granted Caltrans easements over portions of the above parcel to make drainage improvements. The State has requested an easement over another portion of the parcel for the purpose of making additional drainage improvements in connection with the ongoing maintenance of Highway 84.

Streets and Highways Code § 960 provides that whenever “the board of supervisors determines that any real property, or interest therein, acquired by the County for highway purposes is no longer necessary for those purposes, the county may sell or exchange the real property, or interest therein, in the manner and upon the terms and conditions approved by the board of supervisors.”

### **Discussion**

The parcel is unimproved and lies on a steep hillside. The proposed easement over the parcel is 25 feet wide and contains approximately 899 square feet of land.

Caltrans has prepared the Right of Way Contract in compliance with its procedures and has offered to pay to County the sum of \$505.63 for the use of the easement. This is considered fair compensation as the parcel has nominal value and drainage improvements already exist.

The Director of Public Works concurs in this recommendation.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Caltrans will pay the County \$505.63, which will be deposited to the Public Works road fund.

cc/enc: D. Penny Bennett, Deputy County Counsel  
cc: John Maltbie, County Manager  
Paul Scannell, Assistant County Manager  
Neil R. Cullen, Public Works Director