



STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Netra Khatri, City Engineer

PREPARER: Mara Grow, Administrative Specialist

DATE: July 29, 2025

TITLE: **Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Humboldt County Association of Governments for the Partnering Assets & Authorities for Comprehensive Transit (PAACT) Project; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Necessary Documents.**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council:

- 1) Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG) for Partnering Assets & Authorities for Comprehensive Transit (PAACT) Project; and
- 2) Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Necessary Documents Pertaining to the MOU.

INTRODUCTION:

The City of Arcata, Humboldt Transit Authority, and HCAOG jointly applied for and received a grant through Caltrans' Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program under the Strategic Partnerships–Transit category. The grant supports the Partnering Assets & Authorities for Comprehensive Transit (PAACT) initiative. The goal of this program is to fund transit-focused, multi-modal planning studies of regional, interregional, and statewide significance, with an emphasis on strengthening government-to-government partnerships.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Arcata is a sub-applicant on this grant. In early 2024, the City submitted a letter of support and committed an in-kind match of \$1,000. The purpose of the PAACT planning project is to facilitate collaborative planning and strengthen relationships among HCAOG, the Humboldt Transit Authority, Caltrans, local tribes, cities, counties, and other transit and mobility service providers. The project will focus on integrating transportation and land use planning while considering socio-economic factors, equity, and sustainable funding mechanisms.

As part of the grant requirements, the City must enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). In addition, the City will receive compensation in an amount not to exceed **\$6,000**, to reimburse staff time and other eligible expenses related to the implementation and delivery of the Humboldt PAACT project.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA):

This initial scope of work is only for public engagement and planning activities. The project related environmental review will occur later during the next phases of the project.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The scope of work and funds associated with these activities/tasks are budgeted for this year's budget.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG) for Partnering Assets & Authorities for Comprehensive Transit (PAACT) Project; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Necessary Documents Pertaining to the MOU. Consent Calendar vote.

ATTACHMENTS:

A. MOU between Arcata and HCAOG for PAACT