

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 02/12/02
Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054/02/02
Agenda Date: 02/26/02
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Phillip M. Demery, Director *PMD*
Public Works

STAFF CONTACT: Scott D. McGolpin, Deputy Director *[Signature]*
Transportation Division, 568-3064

SUBJECT: Project Nominations for Potential Federal Transportation Funding
All Supervisorial Districts

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Authorize the Public Works Department to submit three independent projects for potential federal Transportation funding through Waterman & Associates in Washington D.C.
- B. Direct the Public Works Director to act as the county's representative to negotiate and execute documents pertaining to the above referenced subject, on behalf of the county.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 1, An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

One of the goals of the County's Legislative Program is to obtain federal funding for our Transportation Infrastructure System. Accordingly, our Legislative Representatives and the County Administrators' office work diligently to achieve this goal.

As such, the Public Works Department was contacted by Ron Waterman of Waterman & Associates Government Relations, Washington D.C., Mr. Waterman has requested a list of potential transportation

projects for nomination for federal funding. The Department requests authority from your Board to submit the following projects for potential revenues from the designated federal funding sources:

Reauthorization of TEA21:

Ekwill Street and Fowler Road Extension Project

The City of Goleta and the County of Santa Barbara are seeking additional funding to implement the transportation infrastructure required to redevelop the Goleta Old Town area. In 1998 the your Board approved the Goleta Old Town Revitalization Plan and accompanying EIR. The plan identified a number of redevelopment opportunities both residential and commercial in an effort to revitalize this urban area. Included in the plan were the critical infrastructure improvements necessary to attract redevelopment projects, improve access to the Santa Barbara Airport, and enhance east west circulation through Goleta Old Town. The County identified two major infrastructure improvements consisting of two new roadways across Goleta Old Town, linking SR 217 on the east with Fairview Avenue and the Airport on the west. The projects are known as the Ekwill Street Extension and Fowler Road Extension projects.

As the preliminary engineering and environmental work on these projects began and project alternatives were evaluated, it became evident that how the two new roads would connect with SR 217 posed a far more complex community approval effort than was initially envisioned. After more than two years of evaluation involving all agency and community stakeholders, a mutually acceptable alternative was identified. The cost of this option, however, was considerably more than was originally programmed in the STIP. The implementation of these improvements will require an additional \$34 million dollars for design, right-of-way acquisition and construction.

Subcommittee on Transportation and Related Agencies:

Traffic Management Center

The County of Santa Barbara is proposing to develop a multi-agency Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) to improve roadway operations within the urbanized area of the south coast of Santa Barbara County. The existing traffic demand on arterials within the South Coast urbanized Area is nearing capacity and new construction and widening is no longer a viable alternative. In addition, the County has a backlog of over \$100 million in maintenance projects. This has resulted in a decrease in roadway speeds, efficiency and operation. Incidents such as accidents, mechanical breakdowns, spills, construction and maintenance activities, and special events can cause congestion on all roadways creating considerable delay. With the availability of Traffic Management Center (TMC) elements, the impacts can be lessened for the motorist and responding emergency vehicles and the existing infrastructure system can be utilized to it's fullest extent. The County recently received a \$2 million grant from the second cycle of TEA21 towards this \$7 million project. The County is requesting \$5 million to complete the development and construction of the ATMS.

Surface Treatment Program (Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Federal Aid Routes)

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) contained provisions for funding surface treatment projects on Federal Aid routes for local agencies. These provisions have greatly improved the condition of the County's roadway system due to the approval of several grant applications submitted by the County. Approximately 28% or 80 lane miles of the County's Federal Aid routes are in poor condition or have failed and require major rehabilitation or reconstruction. This level of funding is enough to address approximately 15 lane miles of roadway or 19% of the County's poor or failed Federal Aid system and allow these roadways to enter into a preventive maintenance program. The County is requesting that \$5 million dollars be programmed for the purpose of reconstructing failed Federal Aid Rural routes in the unincorporated areas of central and northern Santa Barbara County.

Mandates and Service Levels:

No change in programs or service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

If the Department is successful with any of these applications the federal dollars received will be applied to the Transportation Infrastructure System as expeditiously as possible.

Special Instructions:

Please forward a certified stamped Minute Order approving this action to the Transportation Division, attn: Cecelia Barnes.

Concurrence:

N/A