



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

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

Department Name: Planning and
Development
Department No.: 053
For Agenda Of: March 20, 2012
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Glenn Russell, Ph.D., Planning and Development, 568-2084
Director(s)
Contact Info: Jeffery S. Hunt, AICP, Director, Long Range Planning, 568-2072
SUBJECT: Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant Applications
Mission Park to Mission Canyon Multimodal Improvements Project, First Supervisorial
District and Los Alamos Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plan and Isla Vista Parking
Program, Third Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Planning and Development Department to submit applications for the Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant Program for: 1) the Mission Park to Mission Canyon Road Multimodal Improvements Project with the City of Santa Barbara as a sub-applicant; 2) the Los Alamos Downtown Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plan; and 3) the Isla Vista Parking Program.

Summary Text:

Caltrans recently issued a call for projects for the Division of Transportation Planning Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Transportation Planning Grant Program. The overall purpose of the program is to promote a balanced, comprehensive multi-modal transportation system. The Community-Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) program promotes public engagement, livable communities, and a sustainable transportation system. The Environmental Justice (EJ) program focuses community involvement in mobility, access and safety planning for low-income, minority, and Native American communities. Each program has an estimated \$3 million in grant funds available statewide. The grant cannot fund engineered technical drawings, right-of-way surveys or environmental review. The application deadline is April 2, 2012.

Staff proposes to submit three separate applications to the Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant Program:

1. A CBTP grant for the Mission Park to Mission Canyon Road Multimodal Improvements Project;
2. An EJ grant for the Los Alamos Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plan; and
3. A CBTP grant for the Isla Vista Parking Program.

Background: Project Description: Mission Park to Mission Canyon Multimodal Improvements Project Policies in the draft Mission Canyon Community Plan (MCCP) direct staff to engage in a collaborative process with area residents to prepare a multi-modal circulation improvement plan for lower Mission Canyon Road (between the boundary with City of Santa Barbara near Rocky Nook Park and Foothill Road/Highway 192). The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History (Museum) is currently working with the City of Santa Barbara on an update to their Master Plan, the roadway component of which involves working within the framework of the MCCP. The Museum has been participating in a working group of volunteers (Safe Passage – Mission Park to Mission Canyon) representing neighborhood associations and the institutions and property owners within a corridor from Mission Santa Barbara (in the City of Santa Barbara) to the intersection of Mission Canyon Road and Las Encinas Road (in the County). Safe Passage is studying strategies to improve pedestrian circulation while protecting, and possibly enhancing, historic and environmental resources. The Caltrans CBTP grant offers the opportunity to build upon the framework already established by the Safe Passage working group to identify safety issues on Mission Canyon Road up to Foothill Road and develop a joint County/City conceptual improvement plan for the entire corridor. The project would include public workshops and preparation of a conceptual improvement plan for concept level review by City and County design review, historic and transportation Boards and Commissions.

The conceptual improvement plan would be developed consistent with Mission Canyon Community Plan and City of Santa Barbara Pedestrian Master Plan policy direction. The Museum is willing to provide an in-kind match for the grant by providing goods and services for the planned public workshops. Long Range Planning would manage the project with participation from County and City of Santa Barbara Public Works staff and the Museum.

Project Description: Los Alamos Downtown Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plan

The Los Alamos Downtown Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plan is identified as an action item in the recently adopted Los Alamos Community Plan (LACP) and is a high priority potential project in the Long Range Planning 2011-2012 Annual Work Program. The parking and pedestrian circulation plan will detail the phasing and installation of parking, walkways, bicycle paths, lighting, street furniture, landscaping and drainage designed consistent with the new downtown Mixed Use zoning, the Bell Street Design Guidelines and Los Alamos western town theme. The plan would enhance economic vitality and provide safer access from residential neighborhoods to the school and the commercial core.

In February 2012, the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) awarded a \$35,000 Measure A - Safe-Routes to School grant to the County to fund the pedestrian, bicycle, and transit components of the Los Alamos Downtown Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plan. The Measure A grant funds will contribute to the local match for the Caltrans grant.

Economic conditions, including the number of persons living below the poverty level in Los Alamos led Caltrans to suggest the County apply for the EJ grant program during this funding round. The project will include public outreach to engage the Los Alamos community in a collaborative visioning process focused on the design of safe pedestrian and bicycle improvements and “complete streets” connections

throughout Los Alamos. The public outreach centers on the Design Your Streets Poster Contest for local students and incorporates a bilingual survey to involve families and local businesses in the design of the town's streetscape. The outreach includes a workshop to be held at Olga Reed Elementary School, displays of student designs at local businesses, and culminates with awards for the designs during the Los Alamos Old Days Celebration. Caltrans staff has expressed support for the outreach program, citing its innovative methods to engage under-represented groups.

Project Description: Isla Vista Parking Program

The Isla Vista Parking Program is proposed to accomplish parking-related goals identified in the Isla Vista Master Plan. Isla Vista has been affected by insufficient on-street parking since the 1970's and numerous studies have identified a severe shortage of on-street parking spaces during periods when University of California Santa Barbara is in session. A goal of this program is to address parking concerns raised by the California Coastal Commission during its initial review of the Master Plan, including the concern that the shortage of on-street parking limits coastal access. The program would implement a comprehensive parking strategy for Isla Vista to reduce non-resident use of on-street parking thereby relieving congestion and increasing the safety of streets throughout the community. With the loss of Redevelopment Agency funding for this program, the Caltrans CBTP grant offers an opportunity to fund the initial work program phases, including community outreach and a final program description. Future funding from other sources would need to be secured for subsequent work program tasks, including permitting, environmental review and implementation.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Mission Park to Mission Canyon Multimodal Improvements Project

In accordance with Long Range Planning Division's estimated budget for this potential project in the FY 2012-2013 Annual Work Program, the grant application will request up to approximately \$100,000. The grant requires a 10% local match; at least 7.5% must be a cash match (including staff time) and the remaining may be an in-kind match. It is anticipated that the in-kind match would come from the Museum in the form of goods and services worth approximately \$3,000. The cash match of approximately \$7,500 would be staff time from Planning and Development and Public Works. If the grant is awarded, the Departments would approach the Board with a budget revision to budget these funds accordingly.

Los Alamos Downtown Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plan

In accordance with the Long Range Planning Division's estimated budget for this project in the FY 2012-2013 Annual Work Program, the grant request will be approximately \$83,050 (note: the grant cannot fund the costs of the engineered technical drawings and environmental review components of the work program estimate). The County as applicant will be using \$35,750 of the Measure A grant funds, including \$3,250 of the local match funds to exceed the grant's required 10% match requirements by approximately \$23,870 or 20%. The match funds will be in-kind services from P&D staff and resources.

Isla Vista Parking Program

The grant request will be approximately \$17,000 to fund the community outreach and program description components of the work program. The local match of approximately \$1,700 would be from in-kind staff time.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
None

FTEs:
None

Special Instructions:

Please return two executed original resolutions and Minute Order to Rosie Dyste, Planning and Development, Long Range Planning Division.

Attachments:

Resolution Approving Applications for Grant Funding from Caltrans Environmental Justice and Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Programs.

Authored by:

Rosie Dyste, Long Range Planning Division
Bret McNulty, Long Range Planning Division

cc:

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