



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 19, 2013  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Glenn S. Russell, Ph.D., Director, Planning and Development,  
Director(s) 568-2085  
Contact Info: Jeffrey S. Hunt, AICP, Deputy Director, Long Range Planning,  
568-2072  
**SUBJECT:** Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant Application  
Santa Ynez Valley Trail and Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans,  
Third Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: No

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors,

1. Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of the Planning and Development Department to apply and enter into contracts to accept grants from Caltrans for the Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program for the Santa Ynez Valley Trail and Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans in the approximate amount of \$245,000, included as Attachment 1.
2. Determine that the proposed grant application is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 and the Notice of Exemption, included as Attachment 2.
3. If the grant is awarded, direct staff to return to the Board of Supervisors with a budget revision request prior to executing the contract.

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Summary Text:**

The overall purpose of the Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program is to promote planning of a balanced, comprehensive multi-modal transportation system, public involvement, livable communities, and a sustainable transportation system. The Planning and Development Department requests authorization to apply for a grant of approximately \$245,000 to fund concept level planning of three distinct project components addressing significant trails, pedestrian circulation and parking needs in the Santa Ynez Valley. The application deadline is April 2, 2013, with awards announcements expected in August 2013. If this project receives an award, work would occur over a two year period from February 2014 to February 2016 (Fiscal Years 2013-14 through 2015-16).

**Background:**

Policies in the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan (SYVCP) direct staff to engage citizens in preparing plans for a Class I multi-use trail along the State Route 154 right-of-way and multi-modal circulation improvements serving the mixed use and residential areas in the unincorporated Santa Ynez and Los Olivos townships. The circulation plans would enhance economic vitality in both Santa Ynez and Los Olivos by serving businesses and resolving existing conflicts between automobiles, pedestrians and bicycles and by addressing incomplete connections to adjacent residential neighborhoods. Consultants will assist with preparation of the three plan components.

**Santa Ynez Valley Trail Plan**

The SYVCP identifies the location of a multi-use trail serving pedestrians, bicyclists and equestrians along State Route 154. The Santa Ynez Valley Trail Plan component of the project would connect Los Olivos to the existing Caltrans Park and Ride facility just east of Santa Ynez on State Route 246.

**Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans**

SYVCP policies direct staff to plan multi-modal circulation improvements in both Santa Ynez and Los Olivos. The circulation plans would accomplish these policy objectives by designing street cross sections; formalizing optimal parking locations and safe, contiguous and pedestrian-friendly improvements connecting visitor parking and residential areas to the core of each township. Each circulation plan will resolve the extent of the public right-of-way and detail phasing and installation of parking, walkways, bicycle paths, lighting, street furniture, street trees and landscaping designed consistent with the guidance in the SYVCP. The end product will be two stand alone concept plans detailing circulation improvement for each township.

**Community Partners and Workshops**

The Planning and Development Department will develop the Santa Ynez Valley Trail and Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans through a collaborative partnership with valley residents, businesses, equestrian, bicycle and trails enthusiasts, interested groups and the Santa Barbara County Community Services Department, Parks Division and Public Works Departments and Caltrans. The Planning and Development Department will conduct a series of interactive design workshops in the valley for each of the three project components to ensure the trail plan and circulation plans are tailored to meet the needs of each area consistent with the SYVCP.

**Environmental Review:**

The application for grant funding and the conceptual Santa Ynez Valley Trail and Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans qualify for a statutory exemption from environmental review under CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 because the project involves planning studies for identification of possible future actions that have not been approved, adopted or funded by the County (see the Notice of Exemption in Attachment 2).

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

The grant application will request approximately \$245,000 for this potential project. Caltrans requires a minimum 10% local match. However, since these grants are highly competitive, Caltrans staff has expressed a strong preference for proposals that include increased matches and in-kind contributions which demonstrate a strong local commitment to the project. Therefore, the Planning and Development Department is seeking a 15% cash match of approximately \$36,750 for this project. \$10,000 of this match would be provided by the Public Works Department from the Transportation Development Act fund and the remaining approximately \$26,750 would come from the general fund and be spread over two fiscal years (\$22,740 (85%) in FY 14-15 and \$4,010 (15%) in FY 16-17. Concurrently, community partners will be identified within the Santa Ynez Valley and solicited to provide an additional 3% (\$7,350) of in-kind services (e.g., meeting facilities, workshop materials, advertising, non-alcoholic refreshments, etc). Depending on the success of this effort, the local match for this project would be 18% of the grant award and greatly improve the application's chances. The total project budget would be approximately \$289,100.

The cash match would be used to fund staff time from the Planning and Development and Public Works Departments. If the grant is awarded, these departments would approach the Board with a budget revision to budget these funds accordingly.

**Special Instructions:**

Please return two executed original resolutions and Minute Order to Bret McNulty, Planning and Development Department, Long Range Planning Division.

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution Approving an Application for Grant Funding from the Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program and delegating authority to enter contracts for the project to the Director of Planning and Development.
2. Notice of Exemption, CEQA Section 15262 and Public Resources Code 21102

**Authored by:**

Bret McNulty, Long Range Planning Division, 884-8060

**cc:**

Chris Sneddon, Public Works

Claude Garciacelay, Community Services Department, Parks Division