



Council Meeting: March 23, 2010

SUBJECT: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sunnyvale authorizing the filing of an application and acceptance of funding under the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) fiscal year 2010/2011 Community-based Transportation Planning Grant for Lawrence Station Area Plan (Project), committing the necessary local match and stating assurance to complete the project.

BACKGROUND

In May 2009, City Council approved a feasibility study for the Lawrence Station Area that reviewed and assessed current and future development potential in the area around the existing Caltrain Station near Lawrence Expressway (refer map in Attachment B). As part of the approval, Council directed staff to pursue additional grant opportunities to raise funds for a comprehensive study.

The California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) has announced a competitive transportation planning grant program for fiscal year 2010/2011 to provide assistance to local governments with their planning efforts. The objective of the grant is to promote a balanced, comprehensive, multi-modal transportation system. The City of Sunnyvale is specifically pursuing the Community Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) Grant to fund the Lawrence Station Area Planning project. The CBTP Grant Program funds coordinated transportation and land-use planning projects that encourage community involvement and partnership. Projects must support livable/sustainable community concepts with a transportation or mobility objective, and promote community identity and quality of life

EXISTING POLICY

Land Use and Transportation Element

Goal R.1. – Protect and sustain a high quality of life in Sunnyvale by participating in coordinated land use and transportation planning in the region

Policy R1.3 – Promote integrated and coordinated local land use and transportation planning

Policy R1.10 – Support land use planning that complements the regional transportation system.

Action Statement R1.10.2 – Support alternative transportation services, such as light rail, buses and commuter rail through appropriate land use planning.

Action Statement R1.10.3 – Encourage mixed uses near transit centers.

DISCUSSION

The scope of work for the Lawrence Station Area Plan (SAP) is contingent upon the amount of funding available for the study. It is estimated that a comprehensive SAP for the subject project will cost anywhere between \$350,000 to \$500,000 including environmental review. So far, the Lawrence SAP study has an amount of \$150,000 in grant funding from the Valley Transportation Authority’s (VTA) *Community Design and Transportation Grant Program*.

The City is applying for an additional \$200,000 of grant funding from Caltrans under its CBTP grant program. According to Caltrans guidelines, funding for the project requires a minimum of 10% local match from the local agency; one-quarter of the local match may include in-kind services. Additionally, local match funds cannot be state or federal, or money that has already been earmarked for other programs or projects. In-kind services must be clearly identified in the scope of work and may include staff time, use of equipment, and refreshments provided at public participation events.

The following table summarizes the local match required for a \$200,000 grant request under the CBTP grant:

Community Based Transportation Planning Grant (Caltrans)		
Local Match Calculator		
Grant funds requested	\$200,000	88.88%
Local Match - cash	\$19,500	8.66%
Local match - kind	\$5,500	2.45%
Total project cost	\$225,000	100%
<i>Local match must be a minimum of 10%</i>		
Total local match %		11.11%
<i>In kind match cannot exceed 25% of the total local match amount</i>		
In-kind % of total local match		22%

A work plan for phased preparation of the Lawrence Station Area Plan will be presented to the City Council on April 27, 2010 (Planning Commission review of the work plan is scheduled for March 22, 2010).

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact from approval of the resolution of support. Should grant funding be awarded, there would be a requirement to provide local matching funds in the amount of \$19,500. Staff will return to Council for consideration of a budget modification to provide local matching funds in the event that a grant is awarded. Staff would likely recommend utilizing the City's dedicated source in the Capital Projects Fund/Traffic Mitigation Sub-fund that is specifically for the purpose of providing local matching funds. There are not enough funds budgeted for this purpose in FY 2009/10 or 2010/11, so dedicated local matching funds would be utilized from funds budgeted in FY 2011/12 and 2012/13. There may be an opportunity to use other local matching funds as well pending the outcome of other projects. In the event a grant is awarded, staff will re-evaluate the capacity for local match funding as part of consideration of a budget modification to accept grant funding.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, in the Council Chambers lobby, in the Office of the City Clerk, at the Library, Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; posting the agenda and report on the City's Web site; and making the report available at the Library and the Office of the City Clerk.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Adopt a resolution to allow staff to pursue and accept Caltrans' FY2010/2011 Community Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) grant (Attachment A).
2. Do not adopt the resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Alternative 1

Reviewed by:

Hanson Hom, Director of Community Development
Prepared by: Surachita Bose, Associate Planner

Approved by:

Gary Luebbers
City Manager

Attachments

- A. Resolution to apply for and accept the Caltrans FY2010/2011 Community Based Transportation Planning Grant for Lawrence Station Area Plan
- B. Map showing the Lawrence SAP study area

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING UNDER THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011 COMMUNITY-BASED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT FOR LAWRENCE STATION AREA PLAN, AND COMMITTING THE NECESSARY LOCAL MATCH AND STATING ASSURANCE TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) has issued its Notice of Funding inviting applications for Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Community-Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) Grant Program and the City of Sunnyvale (Applicant) has submitted an application to CALTRANS under its CBT Grant program for an additional \$200,000 in grant funding for Lawrence Station Area Plan;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the grant program is to fund planning projects statewide that support “livable” community concepts, coordinate land-use and transportation planning to improve mobility, access and safety, and promote community involvement;

WHEREAS, the Applicant must clearly demonstrate how the Project promotes federal and/or state transportation planning goals; and

WHEREAS, CALTRANS requires a local match equal to 10 percent of the grant total (of which one-quarter may include in-kind services), and local match funds cannot be state or federal, or money that has already been earmarked for other programs or projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE THAT:

1. The City approves the filing of the application for up to \$200,000 in grant funds from CALTRANS, contingent upon grant funds being available, and participation therein, consistent with constitutional and local law requirements and this resolution;
2. The City has reviewed, understands and to the extent consistent with all constitutional and local law requirements and this resolution agrees to the provisions contained in the application and program guidelines, documents and agreements;
3. The City of Sunnyvale appoints and authorizes the City Manager and his designee(s), and each of them, as agent(s) of the City of Sunnyvale to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit documents including, but not limited to, the standard agreement, applications, amendments, memoranda of understanding, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for participation in and completion of the aforementioned Project, including any extensions or amendments thereof, subject to prior approval as to form by the City Attorney’s Office;

4. The City of Sunnyvale has or will have available funds to provide a local match of 10 percent of the grant total (of which one-quarter may include in-kind services), and to operate and maintain the project following its implementation; and

5. A signed copy of this resolution is transmitted to CALTRANS in conjunction with the filing of the application.

Adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on _____, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk
(SEAL)

Mayor

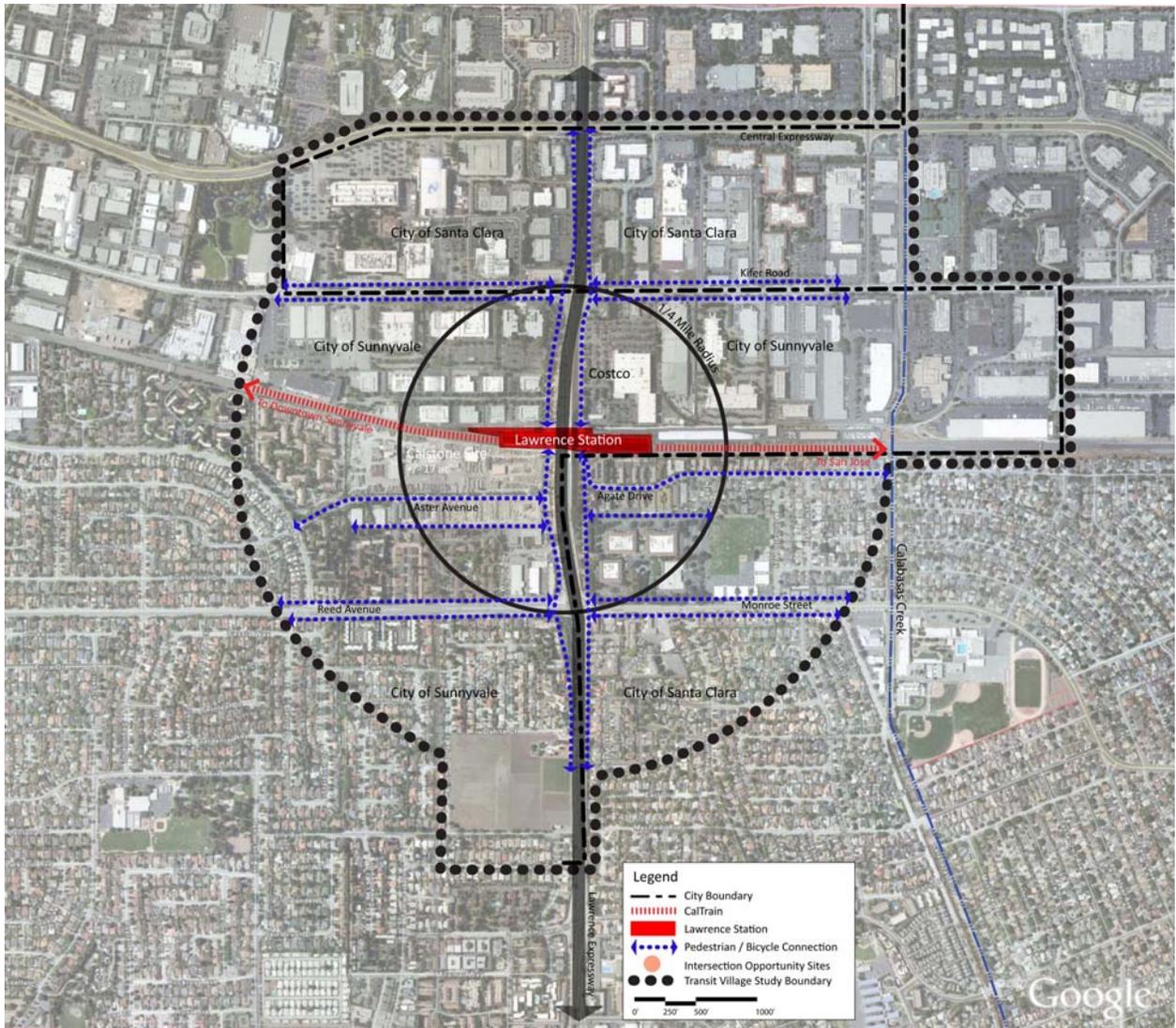
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

David E. Kahn, City Attorney

PERSON AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
CALTRANS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE

Gary Luebbers, City Manager

Lawrence Station Area Plan: Study Area Map



Note: Study area encompasses properties within a half-mile radius from Lawrence Caltrain Station, including properties in the City of Sunnyvale and Santa Clara