Council Meeting: March 8, 2011

SUBJECT: Stevens Creek Trail Planning Grants – Approval of Resolutions of Support

BACKGROUND

Two grant programs have been identified as candidates for funding of a proposed feasibility study for identifying alternatives for a unified Stevens Creek Trail concept for the corridor involving Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Los Altos, and Cupertino. Both programs require resolutions of support (see Attachment A and B) to accompany the grant applications.

Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program

The State of California manages a statewide competitive grant program called the Community-Based Transportation Planning Program. The program funds coordinated transportation and land use planning that promotes public engagement, livable communities, and a sustainable transportation system which includes mobility, access and safety. This year, the State anticipates that $3 million will be available statewide for this program. Staff believes that a Stevens Creek Trail feasibility study is a good candidate to compete for these funds. The maximum grant amount allowed is $300,000 and staff intends to apply for $175,000. This program requires a 10% local match.

Watershed Stewardship Grant Program

The Santa Clara Valley Water District has a program called the Watershed Stewardship Program that provides funds for creek trail planning. Staff intends to apply for a $100,000 grant, which is the maximum allowable grant request. No local match is required.

EXISTING POLICY

Land Use and Transportation Element C3, Attain a transportation system that is effective, safe, pleasant and convenient.

Land Use and Transportation Element C3.7, Pursue local, state and federal transportation funding sources to finance City transportation capital improvement projects consistent with City priorities.

DISCUSSION

Sunnyvale staff has indicated to the Joint Four Cities Stevens Creek Trail Working Group that Sunnyvale will take the lead in managing and preparing a feasibility study for a unified Stevens Creek Trail corridor concept. Completion of the study
is dependent upon securing outside revenue. To date, Sunnyvale staff has secured the Working Team support for seeking grant funding opportunities, and has received the endorsement of the Group on a proposed work scope for a feasibility study.

At this time, staff has identified two pending grant funding opportunities. The grant program resolutions indicate local support for the grant applications, and identifies parties responsible for execution of agreements for funding. Approval of these resolutions does not commit Sunnyvale to provide local matching funds. The Working Team has initially discussed shared responsibility for local matching requirements.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact from approval of the resolutions of support. Should grant funding be awarded, there could be a requirement to provide local matching funds. The maximum local match exposure would be $30,000, to cover the 10% match requirement for the Caltrans grant. Participating cities are open to discussing cost sharing of local matching requirements.

**PUBLIC CONTACT**

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City’s official-notice bulletin boards outside City Hall, in the Council Chambers lobby, the City Clerk’s office, 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 Office of the City Clerk.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the Resolutions of Support for two grant funding opportunities stating the City’s understanding of the funding process and authorizing the City Manager to execute contracts and agreements should funding be awarded.

2. Do not take action at this time and forfeit the opportunity for State of California and Santa Clara Valley Water District planning grant funds.
RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Alternative No. 1: Approve the Resolutions of Support for two grant funding opportunities stating the City’s understanding of the funding process and authorizing the City Manager to execute contracts and agreements should funding be awarded.

Approval of these Resolutions of Support will provide the City and partnering cities in the Joint Four Cities Stevens Creek Trail Working Team an opportunity to compete for grant funds for a unified trail concept feasibility study.

Reviewed by:

_________________________________________
Marvin A. Rose, Director of Public Works
Prepared by: Jack Witthaus, Transportation and Traffic Manager

Approved by:

_________________________________________
Gary M. Luebbers
City Manager

Attachments:

A. Resolution of Support, Community-Based Transportation Planning Program
B. Resolution of Support, Watershed Stewardship Grant Program
RESOLUTION NO. ______

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY-BASED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the City of Sunnyvale is eligible to receive federal and/or state funding for certain transportation planning projects through the California Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Sunnyvale supports a grant application to the California Department of Transportation for funding of a feasibility study of unified Stevens Creek Trail alternatives involving the four cities along the Stevens Creek Trail Corridor; and

WHEREAS, project administration documents including a contract between the City of Sunnyvale and the California Department of Transportation needs to be executed before such funds may be claimed; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to approve and execute these documents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE THAT the City Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to approve and execute all project administration documents including a contract and any amendments thereto between the City of Sunnyvale and the California Department of Transportation for the Community-Based Transportation Planning Program.

Adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on __________, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES: ____________________________
NOES: ____________________________
ABSTAIN: _________________________
ABSENT: __________________________

ATTEST: ____________________________ APPROVED: ____________________________
City Clerk Mayor
(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

______________________________
David E. Kahn, City Attorney
WHEREAS, the Santa Clara Valley Water District has enacted the Watershed Stewardship Grant Program, which provides funds for the implementation of watershed stewardship activities per the goals and objectives described in the Grant Request for Proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara Valley Water District's Stream Stewardship Unit has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the grant program, setting up necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Santa Clara Valley Water District require Grantee's Governing Body to certify by resolution the approval of Grantee to apply for and accept Watershed Stewardship Grant Program funds; and

WHEREAS, Grantee will enter into an Agreement with the Contract with the Santa Clara Valley Water District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of Sunnyvale hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an Application for local assistance funds from the Watershed Stewardship Grant Program; and

2. Certifies that the Applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project(s); and

3. Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed, understands and agrees to the Special Provisions, General Provisions and Financial Provisions contained in the Agreement; and

4. Appoints the City Manager, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, Applications, agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of Project(s).

Adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on __________, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:
ATTEST: ________________________________

City Clerk
(SEAL)

APPROVED: ________________________________

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

_____________________________________

David E. Kahn, City Attorney