



Council Meeting: September 24, 2013

SUBJECT: Approval of a Resolution of Support for Safe Routes to Transit Program Funding

BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) through contract administrators TransForm and the East Bay Bicycle Coalition is overseeing programming of specific projects and allocations to Bay Area jurisdictions for improvements benefiting transit facilities. The MTC is distributing \$20 million in Regional Measure 2 funds to local agencies in five grant cycles, the last of which is to occur in FY 2013/14. No local match is required, although provision of matching funds increases the likelihood of realizing grant funds. Safe Routes to Transit grant funds are awarded on a competitive basis. Eligible project types are secure bicycle storage at transit stations/stops/pods, safety enhancements for ped/bike station access to transit stations/stops/pods, removal of ped/bike barriers near transit stations, and system-wide transit enhancements to accommodate bicyclists or pedestrians.

Staff has identified one eligible candidate project, and the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) has requested joint sponsorship of a second candidate project. Recommended projects are:

- Sunnyvale – sidewalk construction on Hendy Avenue and Willow Avenue to improve pedestrian access to the Sunnyvale and Lawrence Caltrain stations
- Caltrain – replacement of manual lock bike lockers with electronic bike lockers at the Sunnyvale Caltrain station

The MTC requires that a resolution of support be approved by the City Council (See Attachment A).

EXISTING POLICY

Land Use and Transportation Element LT 5.7: Pursue local, state and federal transportation funding sources to finance City transportation capital improvement projects consistent with City priorities.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Applying for a grant is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

DISCUSSION

Staff has reviewed City plans and evaluated citizen suggestions received over time to identify eligible projects. One candidate Sunnyvale project has been identified. Council is being asked, as recommended by staff, to approve a resolution of support as presented in Attachment A. Staff is applying for a total of up to \$ 500,000 in funding. The Resolution of Support can also be used to support the Caltrain application for bike locker replacement. Approval of the Resolution of Support for the Caltrain project does not constitute any kind of funding commitment on the part of the City to participate in the Caltrain project.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact from approving the attached resolution of support for grant funding. Should funding be awarded, the grant program encourages a local match, although staff has not identified a local match level to support the City's project at this time. Staff will propose matching funding based on the availability of local matching funds and an evaluation of how well the project may benefit from a match in the competition for funding. Staff will return to Council with a budget modification to appropriate funds at such time that a grant is awarded.

PUBLIC CONTACT

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

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Council approve the attached Resolution of Support for Safe Routes to Transit Grant Program funding.

Approval of the resolution will allow the City to compete for federal transportation funding for planned transportation improvements.

Reviewed by:

Kent Steffens, Director of Public Works

Prepared by: Jack Witthaus, Transportation and Traffic Manager

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers
City Manager

ATTACHMENT

A. Resolution of Support

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNNYVALE AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSIGNED TO METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (“MTC”), TRANSFORM AND THE EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION AND COMMITTING ANY NECESSARY MATCHING FUNDS AND STATING THE ASSURANCE TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Sunnyvale and the Peininsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (herein referred to as APPLICANTS) is submitting applications to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) through its program administrators TransForm and the East Bay Bicycle Coalition for up to \$500,000 in Regional Measure 2 funding assigned to the MTC for programming discretion for the following projects:

1. Sunnyvale and Lawrence Caltrain Station Pedestrian Improvements
2. Sunnyvale Caltrain Station E-Bike Lockers

(herein referred to as PROJECTS) for the Safe Routes to Transit Grant Program (herein referred to as PROGRAM); and

WHEREAS, Regional Measure 2 authorizes various funding programs from bridge tolls including, but not limited to bridge seismic retrofit, new bridge construction, cross-bay transit service, and Safe Routes to Transit; and

WHEREAS, state statutes, including California Streets and Highways Code 182.6 and 182.7 provide various funding programs for the programming discretion of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Regional Measure 2, and any regulations promulgated thereunder, eligible project sponsors wishing to receive Regional Measure 2 funds for a project shall submit an application first with the appropriate MPO for review and inclusion in the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, MTC is the MPO and RTPA for the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay region; and

WHEREAS, APPLICANT is an eligible sponsor for Regional Measure 2 Safe Routes to Transit funding; and

WHEREAS, as part of the application for Regional Measure 2 Safe Routes to Transit funding, MTC and its program administrators require a resolution adopted by the responsible implementing agency stating the following:

1. the commitment of any proposed matching funds; and
2. that the sponsor understands that Safe Routes to Transit funding is fixed at the programmed amount, and therefore any cost increase cannot be expected to be funded with additional Safe Routes to Transit funding; and

ATTACHMENT A

3. that the project will comply with the procedures, delivery milestones and funding deadlines specified by the Safe Routes to Transit program; and
4. the assurance of the sponsor to complete the project as described in the application, and if approved, as included in MTC's federal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and
5. that the project will comply with all project-specific requirements as set forth in the Safe Routes to Transit Program

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the APPLICANT is authorized to execute and file an application for funding for the PROJECTS for Regional Measure 2 Safe Routes to Transit funding; and be it further

RESOLVED that the APPLICANT by adopting this resolution does hereby state that: As part of the application for Regional Measure 2 Safe Routes to Transit funding

1. Commitment of any proposed matching funds; and
2. That the sponsor understands that Safe Routes to Transit funding is fixed at the programmed amount, and therefore any cost increase cannot be expected to be funded with additional Safe Routes to Transit funding; and
3. That the project will comply with the procedures, delivery milestones and funding deadlines specified by the Safe Routes to Transit program; and
6. The sponsor assures to complete the project as described in the application, and if approved, as included in MTC's federal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and
7. that the project will comply with all project-specific requirements as set forth in the Safe Routes to Transit Program

RESOLVED that APPLICANT is an eligible sponsor of Regional Measure 2 Safe Routes to Transit funded projects; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT is authorized to submit an application for Regional Measure 2 Safe Routes to Transit for the PROJECTS; and be it further

RESOLVED that there is no legal impediment to APPLICANT making applications for the funds; and be it further

RESOLVED that there is no pending or threatened litigation that might in any way adversely affect the proposed PROJECTS, or the ability of APPLICANT to deliver such PROJECTS; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT authorizes its Executive Director, General Manager, or designee to execute and file applications with MTC for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING for the PROJECTS as referenced in this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be transmitted to the MTC and its program administrators in conjunction with the filing of the application; and be it further

RESOLVED that the MTC is requested to support the application for the PROJECTS

ATTACHMENT A

described in the resolution and to include the PROJECTS, if approved, in MTC's federal TIP.

Adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on _____, 2013, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk
(SEAL)

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Joan A. Borger, City Attorney