



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2013

ITEM NUMBER: _

SUBJECT: BICYCLE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION

DATE: NOVEMBER 6, 2013

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT - TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: ERNESTO MUNOZ, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: RAJA SETHURAMAN, TRANSPORTATION SERVICES MANAGER, (714) 754-5032

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution approving the submittal of the West 19th Street Bicycle Trail Project for potential grant funding under the Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) Bicycle Corridor Improvement (BCI) Program for Fiscal Year 2014-15 (Attachment 1).

BACKGROUND:

The BCI Program is funded using federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, first authorized under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991; and subsequently reauthorized under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) in 1998; the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005; and most recently, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) in July 2012. The CMAQ Program provides funding through annual appropriations to OCTA to be used for transportation-related projects that reduce congestion and improve air quality. The OCTA is responsible for selecting regionally significant projects for Orange County and working with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in administering selected projects.

ANALYSIS:

The "BCI 2014 Call for Projects" was approved on August 5, 2013 by the Regional Planning and Highways Committee and on August 12, 2013 by the OCTA Board of Directors. This competitive program will make \$4.3 million in federal CMAQ funds available for bicycle projects. Projects eligible for CMAQ funding through this "Call for Projects" include bicycle facilities projects ranging from a minimum of \$100,000 to a maximum of \$1,000,000. A minimum local match of twelve (12) percent is required.

Eligible projects may include:

- Bicycle facilities, e.g., gap closures, bike lockers, bikeways, and bike racks.
- Bicycle multi-use recreation trails and facilities.

Staff has analyzed the need for bicycle facility improvements within the City, and on September 30, 2013 submitted a grant application for the West 19th Street Bicycle Trail Project. While the City met all the eligibility requirements, OCTA requires approval of the attached resolution prior to any consideration of the City's application. The submittal of the application in response to this "BCI 2014 Call for Projects" will not be deemed complete and final until an adopted resolution is submitted to OCTA. The resolution authorizes the Public Services Director to submit the grant application and provides commitment of City matching funds.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Council may consider to not adopt the Resolution. However, this alternative is not recommended as it would result in the City's project application being declined and render the City ineligible to compete for available grant funding.

FISCAL REVIEW:

If staff is successful in capturing grant funding for this project, a recommendation for a funding source for a local match will be made during the budget process. Available sources include Air Quality Management District (AQMD) AB2766 funds, and the General Fund. These two (2) funding sources are eligible for local match funds under the BCI guidelines. If grant funding is captured, the projects are typically implemented within a two-year period. This would allow for the City to adequately budget any required matching funds.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

CONCLUSION:

The current "2014 Call for Projects" provides an opportunity for the City to compete for grant funding for implementation of bicycle projects under the 2014 Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program. Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution for OCTA's consideration of the City's project application submitted for BCI Program funding.

RAJA SETHURAMAN
Transportation Services Manager

ERNESTO MUNOZ
Public Services Director

ATTACHMENT: [1 - Resolution](#)

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