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AGENDA REPORT

TO: DEANNA J. SANTANA
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: Vitaly B. Troyan, P.E.

SUBJECT: San Pablo Avenue
Green Street Project

DATE: February 28, 2013

City Administrator
Approval

Date

3/26/13

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council Approve a Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator, or Her Designee to Enter into an Agreement with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership to Implement a Green Street Retrofit Project along San Pablo Avenue to include Bike Lanes, Pedestrian-Friendly Improvements and Stormwater Filtration Landscaping.

OUTCOME

This Agreement will allow the San Francisco Estuary Partnership to install a green street retrofit project on San Pablo Avenue between 16th and 17th Street. The project will include bicycle lanes, pedestrian-friendly elements, drought tolerant landscaping and a rain garden for stormwater filtration. Implementation of this green street project will help the City meet its overall goal to provide safe and convenient bikeways and also integrate the natural and urban environment and enhance neighborhood livability. This project will also help the City meet its State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit requiring cities to implement pilot green street projects to provide stormwater treatment. The San Pablo Green Street Project is a regional project involving the following seven cities: Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, San Pablo and Richmond. Under this Agreement, the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) will manage the design, construction, monitoring and 2-year plant establishment phases of the green street retrofit using mitigation funds from the California Department of Transportation and grant funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency and the State of California, Department of Water Resources.

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BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Green streets, includes both the “Complete Streets” approach which gives priority to pedestrian and bicycle circulation and also includes stormwater elements that use landscaping to mimic natural processes to infiltrate, retain, re-use and filter stormwater runoff. The proposed project would use flow-through planters to clean polluted stormwater runoff. In addition, it will add bike lanes and enhance the pedestrian and bike environment by introducing park like elements. The proposed location for Oakland’s green street retrofit project is on San Pablo Avenue between 16th and 17th Streets (shown in *Attachment A*). This site was selected due to its proximity to the City Center and its opportunity to afford public exposure, ability to act as a “gateway” into the adjacent plaza space and availability of space for bicycle lanes, wider sidewalks and stormwater treatment areas. The work is located in Council District 3.

In 2009, the State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board issued an NPDES Permit requiring cities to implement pilot green street projects by December 1, 2014. To help cities meet NPDES requirements and to help support green street infrastructure, the SFEP applied for and received funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency, Caltrans and the State Department of Water Resources to fund the design and construction of a green street retrofit project on San Pablo Avenue. The San Pablo Avenue Green Street Project involves constructing pilot green street retrofits in all seven cities along San Pablo Avenue including Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, San Pablo and Richmond and would help satisfy the regulatory requirement for completion of green street projects.

ANALYSIS

The City, as a permittee under the NPDES permit, must meet the regulatory requirements mandated by the State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board to participate in the implementation of a green street retrofit project. Acceptance of the agreement will help the City meet the NPDES regulations. Without this funding, no pilot green retrofit project would occur.

The conceptual design of this project includes installation of flow-through planters along the West Side of San Pablo Avenue, removal of the center median, inclusion of a bicycle lane in each direction to connect to planned, future San Pablo Avenue bike lanes and additional sidewalk landscaping and trees. The entire project site currently has 34 parking spaces including; 22 public parking spaces, 11 spaces for city vehicles and one handicapped space. The project would eliminate six parking spaces along the west side of the street. The City will conduct an analysis of where the six parking spaces can be relocated. Any trees currently in the median will be replaced in another location at the project site.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

Staff has discussed the green street retrofit concept with Oakland's Downtown Business Improvement District staff. SFEP has met with community groups during the conceptual planning.

COORDINATION

Watershed and Stormwater Management staff within the Department of Engineering and Construction has coordinated with Public Works Storm Drain Operations, Right of Way Management, Transportation Planning, Infrastructure Plans and Programming, and Business Development Services during the conceptual planning of the green project. In addition, the Office of the City Attorney and the City Budget Office reviewed this report and resolutions.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

There is no direct fiscal impact to the City for this project. Approval of this resolution will authorize the City Administrator or Her Designee to accept the design and construction of a green street retrofit project along San Pablo Avenue.

The SFEP will be required to get all applicable permits for this project, put up a performance bond, work in accordance with its grant funding requirements and pay the prevailing wage to its contractors.

The anticipated landscaping will require maintenance. As part of the project, the SFEP will provide the landscaping maintenance and establishment for the first two years following construction. The Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) staff has agreed to provide the maintenance of the landscaping after the establishment period concludes. The current encroachment permit for the BID will be modified to reflect that agreement.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Installation of the pilot green retrofit project will decrease the City's cost of meeting regulatory mandates.

Environmental: Installation of the pilot green street project will improve the water quality in Oakland and the San Francisco Bay by preventing pollutants from entering the stormwater system and flowing into San Francisco Bay. The projects will enhance the attractiveness and livability of the area by enhancing the pedestrian and bicycle environment and introducing park-like elements into the neighborhood.

Social Equity: Installation of the pilot green retrofit project will result in a healthier, cleaner, and more attractive experience for Oakland residents and visitors.

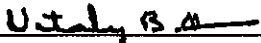
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CEQA

SFEP will be obtaining the CEQA certification. It is anticipated that this project will be Categorically Exempt under Section 15301, Existing Facilities. The project site meets these criteria by making minor alterations in existing street, sidewalk, curb/gutters, and similar facilities at select locations along the public right of way.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Lesley Estes, Program Manager, Watershed & Stormwater Management, at (510) 238-7431.

Respectfully submitted,


VITALY B. TROYAN, P.E.
Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:
Michael Neary, P.E., Assistant Director
PWA, Department of Engineering and Construction

Reviewed by:
Gus Amirzehni, P.E., Engineering and R.O.W Manager
Engineering Design and R.O.W Management Division

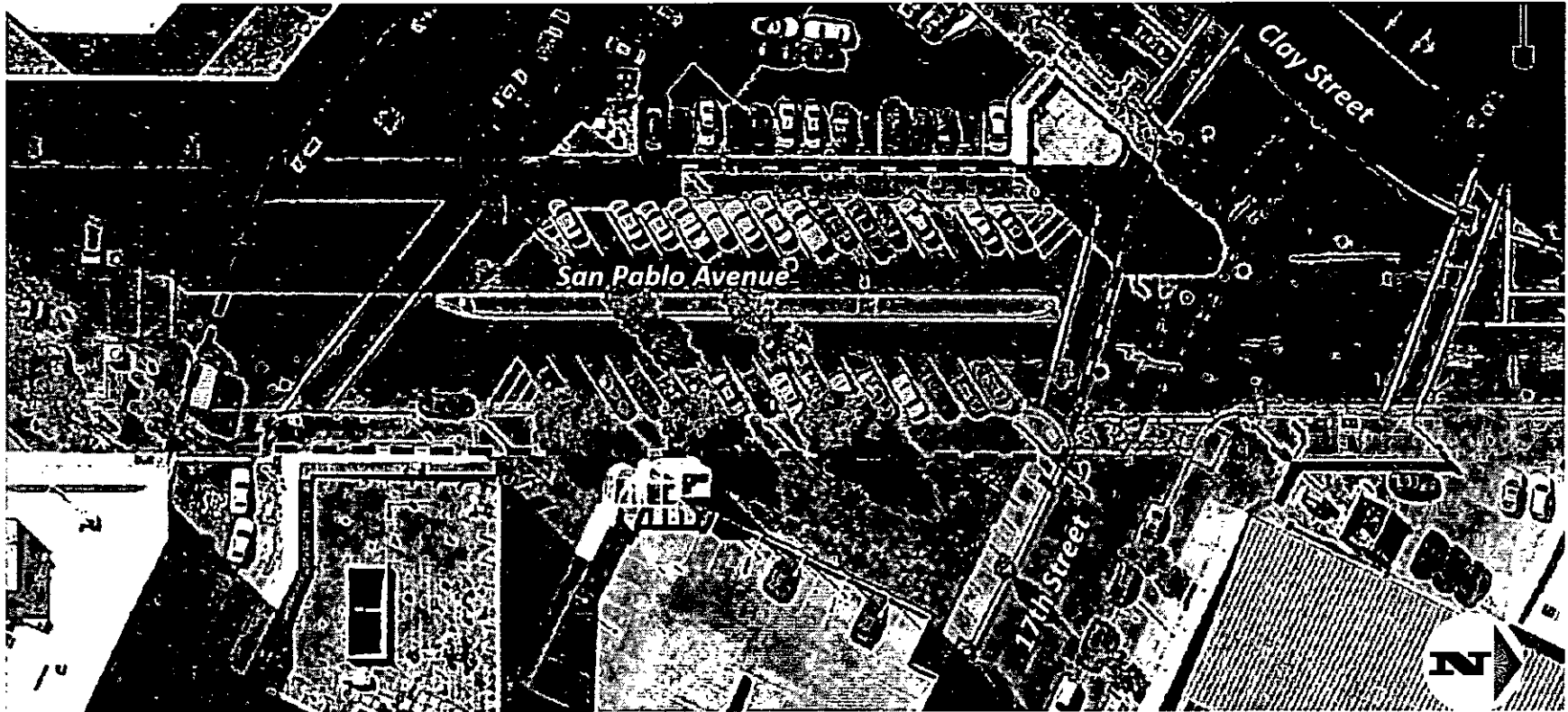
Prepared by:
Lesley Estes, Program Manager
Watershed & Stormwater Management

Attachment A: Project Location Map

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San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project

City of Oakland, California

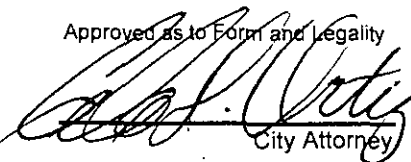


FILED
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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Approved as to Form and Legality



City Attorney

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR HER
DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SAN
FRANCISCO ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP TO IMPLEMENT A GREEN
STREET RETROFIT PROJECT ALONG SAN PABLO AVENUE TO
INCLUDE BIKE LANES, PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY IMPROVEMENTS
AND STORMWATER FILTRATION LANDSCAPING**

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland seeks to enter into an agreement with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco Estuary Partnership has received a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Transportation and California Department of Water Resources to construct green street retrofits for all seven cities along San Pablo Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Estuary Partnership has the funds to design and construct the pilot green street retrofit for the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland has no available funds to complete this green street retrofit; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Estuary Partnership will provide all services associated with the design and construction of the green street retrofit and the 2-year establishment of the bioretention landscaping; and

WHEREAS, the elements in this agreement will help the City of Oakland meet regulatory State of California and Regional Water Quality Control Board requirements to complete pilot green street projects that incorporate stormwater storage/infiltration and create attractive streetscapes and bike lanes in San Francisco Bay; and

WHEREAS, the activities in this agreement will help meet Council goals to develop a sustainable city and to foster livable neighborhoods; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council authorizes the City Administrator or Her Designee to enter into an agreement to accept the construction of the green street retrofit and that said agreement

shall be reviewed and approved for form and legality by the City Attorney's Office and shall be filed with the Office of the City Clerk; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator, or Her Designee, is authorized to negotiate, execute and amend an agreement with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership and any amendments or change orders thereto.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2013

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES – BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF and PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California