

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
AGENDA REPORT**

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

2005 MAR 31 PM 1:23

TO: Office of the City/Agency Administrator  
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly  
FROM: Public Works Agency  
DATE: April 12, 2005

RE: **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A TRANSPORTATION FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES (TLC) GRANT FOR \$2,200,000 FROM THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC), ACCEPTING \$159,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY UNDER THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO FUND THE REVIVE CHINATOWN PEDESTRIAN-ORIENTED IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT; AND**

**RESOLUTION REALLOCATING \$159,000 FROM THE DOWNTOWN CAPITAL PROJECT SUPPORT TO THE CITY OF OAKLAND UNDER THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO FUND THE REVIVE CHINATOWN PEDESTRIAN-ORIENTED IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AS MATCHING FUNDS FOR A METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC) GRANT**

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**SUMMARY**

This item is a request for City Council and Redevelopment Agency approval of two resolutions regarding the acceptance and appropriation of a Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) grant from Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the reallocation of Redevelopment Agency funds as matching funds for the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-Oriented Improvements Project. Adoption of these resolutions will assist the City and Agency in improving the pedestrian safety and transportation deficiencies in the Chinatown area.

This project is consistent with the Mayor and City Council Goals to Maintain and Enhance Oakland's Physical Assets and to Improve Oakland's Neighborhoods. The project is located in Council District 2.

Federal funds have been granted by MTC as administered through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) through the Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) Program, which identifies federal funds in the amount of \$2,200,000 for the project and local match in the amount of \$477,000. Federal and local funds are needed to fund preliminary engineering, construction, construction engineering and contingencies.

The program funds must be obligated by June 30, 2006 for TLC capital projects. In order to meet this funding deadline, final construction documents must be completed by April 2006 and submitted to Caltrans for authorization to proceed with construction. It is recommended that the resolution be approved.

Item#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Works Committee  
04/12/05

## FISCAL IMPACT

Federal funds have been granted by MTC through the TLC Program to fund this project as administered through Caltrans. The size of the project that Caltrans is monitoring is \$2,485,033, which includes \$2,200,000 (88.53%) of federal funds and the mandatory \$285,033 (11.47%) of local funds. The cost of the project is estimated to be \$2,677,000, therefore additional local funds have been secured for the project to bring the total local funds to \$477,000.

Staff recommends allocating \$477,000 of matching funds to cover the remaining cost of the project and to cover ineligible project costs under the TLC program, such as overhead costs, staff cost prior to Caltrans authorization to proceed with design, and project closing cost. Funds from the following sources will provide the required local match:

- 1) The Redevelopment Agency's Central District: \$159,000 will be transferred from Oakland Redevelopment Agency (ORA) 1986 Bonds fund (9504), Capital Improvement Project-CEDA Organization (94800), Downtown Capital Project Support (P130620), Contract Contingencies Account (54011), to Public Works Agency in Oakland Redevelopment Agency Project fund (7780).
- 2) Pedestrian Streetscape Safety Elements funds: \$138,000 will be transferred from Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety funds (2212), Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects (C165720), Capital Improvement Projects - Streets and Structures Organization (92242), Contract Contingencies Account (54011), to the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-Oriented Improvements Project under a project number to be established. These funds were approved in FY 04-05 budget cycle specifically for projects such as this.
- 3) Additional local Measure B Pedestrian Streetscape Safety Elements funds: \$180,000 is being requested as part of FY 05-06 CIP budget development process. If these funds are not approved, the scope of the project will be reduced or another source of funding will be sought.

Federal funds will be appropriated into MTC grant (fund 2163), Capital Improvement Projects-Streets and Structures Organization (92242), under a project number to be established. With federal and matching funds, the total project budget will be \$2,677,000. These funds will be used for preliminary engineering, construction, construction engineering and contingencies. The City will be responsible for maintaining the project after completion.

## BACKGROUND

In 2001, the City of Oakland applied to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for an Environmental Justice-Planning grant. This application was submitted in collaboration with Asian Health Services (AHS) and the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce (Chamber). The \$225,000 grant was awarded in early 2003 to complete a community-based transportation plan to empower a community that, historically, has been excluded from transportation decision-making and adversely affected by transportation projects. The close collaboration between the City, AHS, and the Chamber was catalyzed in part by data analysis for the Pedestrian Master Plan that identified Chinatown as having the highest concentration of pedestrian/motor vehicle collisions in Oakland.

The planning process was directed by a steering committee involving AHS, Chamber, Councilmember Danny Wan, Councilmember Henry Chang, and the Oakland Pedestrian Safety Project (OPSP). The

corresponding Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) included AC Transit, Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), City of Alameda, Oakland Public Works Agency, and the Oakland Police Department. CHS Consulting completed the technical analysis of existing conditions, project alternatives, and project recommendations.

AHS and the Chamber led an extensive, grassroots process of community participation to address the complexity of the transportation issues, the number of stakeholders, and the diversity within the Chinatown community. To guide the community process, AHS and the Chamber formed a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) composed of leaders from businesses, family associations, and other organizations. Through focus groups, surveys, mapping exercises, and meetings, over 1,000 people participated in this planning process.

As the outcome of this process, the Revive Chinatown Community Transportation Plan (2004) provides a twenty-year vision for the core of Oakland Chinatown, bounded by 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the south, 10<sup>th</sup> Street to the north, Franklin Street to the west, and Harrison Street to the east. This project is the first phase of capital improvements identified by the Revive Chinatown Community Transportation Plan. The plan has the following four goals:

- 1) Create a pedestrian environment that is safe and accessible for people of all ages and abilities.
- 2) Expand transportation choices for travel to and from Chinatown to encourage more visitors and shoppers.
- 3) Improve the attractiveness of Chinatown's commercial district as a regional shopping destination.
- 4) Involve the community in a process that unifies diverse groups and empowers them to seek long-term solutions to quality of life issues in Oakland Chinatown.

Under the TLC program, MTC provides federal funds through Caltrans and the City will provide the local match, manage the design and the development of construction documents for the project, and be responsible for bidding, awarding, and managing the construction contract. To facilitate the completion of this project, a local agency-state funding agreement in the amount of \$2,200,000 must be executed. Following this agreement, the design process will start and the City will prepare plans and specifications for this project.

The total project budget is \$2,677,000 and includes construction, project management, construction engineering, the bid/award administrative costs and construction contingencies. The sources of project funds are: 1) federal funds in the amount of \$2,200,000 and 2) local funds in the amount of \$477,000.

The project is currently in the pre-design phase. Construction of the project is anticipated to be completed by Spring 2007.

## **KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

The project focuses on (1) improving pedestrian safety and access and (2) improving Chinatown's appearance. To create a pedestrian-oriented district in Chinatown, pedestrian bulb-outs and "scramble signals" will be installed at the four busiest intersections in the Chinatown core. Scramble signals allow pedestrians to cross while all vehicular traffic is stopped. These four core intersections plus the twelve immediately surrounding intersections will receive pedestrian countdown signal heads and high visibility

crosswalks. Pedestrian-scale street lighting and banners will be installed on two blocks to demonstrate the benefits of additional pedestrian-scale lighting in future project phases. The project also includes bilingual way-finding signage to direct visitors to key destinations in Chinatown, including the nearby BART stations.

The City of Oakland must obtain authorization from Caltrans to proceed with the construction of the project by June 30, 2006. In order to meet this funding deadline, final construction documents must be completed by April 2006. Acceptance of federal funds will facilitate the initiation of the project and will help ensure meeting the obligation deadline.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed work consists of the construction and installation of pedestrian oriented improvements, including corner bulb-outs, scramble traffic signals, pedestrian countdown signals, high-visibility crosswalks, pedestrian-scale lighting, street trees, street furniture, bilingual signage, and miscellaneous work in the Chinatown core.

The project limits are the streets including and in-between 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway to Harrison Street in the Chinatown core. The project will improve pedestrian safety and access in Oakland Chinatown.

## **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

Economic: This project brings \$2.7 million in capital improvements to the Chinatown core to help create vibrant streets for residents, merchants, and visitors. These improvements are part of the larger strategy of the community transportation plan to strengthen Chinatown's role as a regional shopping destination.

Environmental: In addition to promoting walking and transit riding, this project offers significant quality of life improvements for Chinatown by humanizing the main streets of this busy commercial district.

Social Equity: Oakland Chinatown is an economic and cultural center for Asian-American communities throughout the East Bay. The environmental justice planning process addressed the burden on this community created by busy streets and nearby freeway access points. In the context of the long-term community transportation plan, this capital improvement project is an important step for mitigating these negative impacts.

## **DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS**

A key aspect of this project is serving the high population of seniors and persons with disabilities who either live in Chinatown or travel there for services. The project follows the principles of universal design – that projects designed to accommodate the most vulnerable users are in the best interest of all users. The proposed improvements at sixteen intersections will serve seniors and persons with disabilities by providing improved pedestrian safety and access. The project will comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and to all City of Oakland regulations that ensure adequate access for senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

**RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE**

Staff recommends that the City Council and Agency approve the two resolutions regarding the acceptance, appropriation and expenditure of the TLC grant for \$2,200,000 from MTC and the acceptance and reallocation of \$159,000 in matching funds from the Redevelopment Agency Downtown Capital Project to the City of Oakland to fund the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-Oriented Improvements Project in Council District 2. Approval of these resolutions will enable staff to proceed with preliminary engineering, construction, construction engineering and cover contingencies for the project.

**ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the acceptance of Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) grant for \$2,200,000 from Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the acceptance of \$159,000 in matching funds from the Redevelopment Agency. Staff also recommends that the Redevelopment Agency authorize the reallocation of \$159,000 from the Downtown Capital Project Support to the City of Oakland. Funds will be used for the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-Oriented Improvements Project in Council District 2.

Respectfully submitted,



**RAUL GODINEZ II, P.E.**

Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:

Michael Neary, P.E.

Assistant Director, Public Works Agency

Design and Construction Services Department

Prepared by:

Fuad Sweiss, P.E.

Engineering Design Division Manager

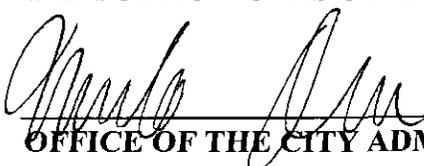
Emad Mirsaiedi, P.E.

Supervising Civil Engineer

Nader Rabahat, P.E.

Civil Engineer

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO  
THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND  
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:  
2005 MAR 31 PM 1:24  
Deputy City Attorney

**OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
**RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.**

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**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A TRANSPORTATION FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES (TLC) GRANT FOR \$2,200,000 FROM THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC), ACCEPTING \$159,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY UNDER THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO FUND THE REVIVE CHINATOWN PEDESTRIAN-ORIENTED IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland (the "City") is receiving a Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) grant in the amount of \$2,200,000 from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the MTC grant requires a local match of \$477,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and the Redevelopment Agency entered into a Cooperation Agreement on July 1, 2004, which generally governs the provision of assistance and the payment of funds between the two agencies, including Redevelopment Agency financial contributions and other assistance to support City public improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 33445 of the California Health and Safety Code authorizes a redevelopment agency to pay for the cost of installation or construction of publicly-owned facilities, if the legislative body has consented to such funding and has made certain findings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Redevelopment Agency has authorized \$159,000 as a local match for the MTC grant, which will be transferred from the Redevelopment Agency Central District funds, 1986 Bond fund (9504), Capital Improvement Project-CEDA Organization (94800), Downtown Capital Project Support (P130620), Contract Contingencies Account (54011) to Public Works Agency Project fund (7780); and

**WHEREAS**, local funds in the amount of \$138,000 was approved as part of FY 04-05 CIP budget and will be transferred from Measure "B" Pedestrian Streetscape Safety Elements funds (2212), Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects (C165720), Capital Improvement Projects - Streets and Structures Organization (92242), Contract Contingencies Account (54011), to the Revive

Chinatown Pedestrian-Oriented Improvements Project under a project number to be established; and

**WHEREAS**, additional local funds in the amount of \$180,000 are being requested as part of FY 05-06 CIP budget development process to fund the project and if these funds are not approved, the scope of the project will be reduced or another source of funding will be sought; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland desires to accept and appropriate the TLC and Redevelopment Agency funds for the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the City Administrator is authorized to accept \$2,200,000 in Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) grant fund (2163) from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and appropriate such fund under a project number to be established; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Council hereby consents to the use of \$159,000 in Redevelopment Agency funds as matching fund for the grant, accepts such funds under the Cooperation Agreement, and appropriates such funds to City repayment account in fund 7780; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Council hereby finds and determines as follows:

1. That the funding of the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project will benefit the Central District Project Area by improving the appearance, pedestrian safety and access at key intersections in Chinatown;
2. That no other reasonable means of financing the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project are available to the City other than Redevelopment Agency funding; and
3. That the use of tax increment funds from the Central District Project Area for Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project will assist in the elimination of blight in the Central District by installing pedestrian bulb-outs and scramble signals at four of the busiest intersections, and installing pedestrian countdown signals and high visibility crosswalks at twelve surrounding intersections in Chinatown, and is consistent with the implementation plan adopted for the Central District Project Area;

and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator or her designee to negotiate grant terms, appropriate revenue, make expenditures, and take all other actions with respect to the MTC grant and this project in accordance with this resolution and its basic purposes; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That should additional funds be received for this project, the City Administrator, or her designee, is hereby authorized to accept and appropriate the same for the purposes described above; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That all documents shall be reviewed and approved by the City Attorney's Office prior to execution, and all copies will be placed on file with the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_, 2005

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES-           BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND  
                  PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LATONDA SIMMONS

Interim City Clerk and Interim Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

BY:   
AGENCY COUNSEL

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

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**RESOLUTION REALLOCATING \$159,000 FROM THE DOWNTOWN CAPITAL PROJECT SUPPORT TO THE CITY OF OAKLAND UNDER THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO FUND THE REVIVE CHINATOWN PEDESTRIAN-ORIENTED IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AS MATCHING FUNDS FOR A METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC) GRANT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland (the "City") is receiving a Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) planning grant in the amount of \$2,200,000 from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the MTC grant requires a local match of \$477,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the City and the Redevelopment Agency entered into a Cooperation Agreement on July 1, 2004, which generally governs the provision of assistance and the payment of funds between the two agencies, including Agency financial contributions and other assistance to support City public improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 33445 of the California Health and Safety Code authorizes a redevelopment agency to pay for the cost of installation or construction of publicly-owned facilities, if the legislative body has consented to such funding and has made certain findings; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is consenting to the use of Agency funds for the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Redevelopment Agency hereby authorizes the reallocation of \$159,000 of Redevelopment Agency Central District funds from the 1986 Bond fund (9504), Downtown Capital Project Support (P130620), Capital Improvement Project-CEDA Organization (94800), Contract Contingencies Account (54011) to Public Works Agency Project fund (7780) under the Cooperation Agreement between the City and the Redevelopment Agency to fund the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project as matching funds for a

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) grant; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Agency hereby finds and determines as follows:

1. That the funding of the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements project will benefit the Central District Project Area by improving the appearance, pedestrian safety and access at key intersections in Chinatown;
2. That no other reasonable means of financing the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project are available to the City other than Redevelopment Agency funding; and
3. That the use of tax increment funds from the Central District Project Area for Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-oriented Improvements Project will assist in the elimination of blight in the Central District by installing pedestrian bulb-outs and scramble signals at four of the busiest intersections, and installing pedestrian countdown signals and high visibility crosswalks at twelve surrounding intersections in Chinatown, and is consistent with the implementation plan adopted for the Central District Project Area;

and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Agency hereby authorizes the Agency Administrator or her designee to take all actions necessary with respect to the grant and the Agency funding in accordance with this resolution and its basic purposes.

IN AGENCY, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_, 2005

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES-           BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND  
                    CHAIRPERSON DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    LATONDA SIMMONS  
                    Interim Secretary, Redevelopment Agency  
                    of the City of Oakland