

CITY OF OAKLAND
COUNCIUAGENCYAGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2003 OCT 16 PM 3:19

TO: Office of the City Manager/Agency Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly, Interim City Manager
FROM: Community-and Economic Development Agency
DATE: October 28,2003

SUBJECT: AGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE MEASURE B BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COUNTYWIDE DISCRETION FUND FOR PLANNING AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR INTERMODAL STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS ON TELEGRAPH AVENUE

SUMMARY

This item is a request for Agency approval of a resolution authorizing the Agency to submit an application to the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund for grant funding for feasibility, design, and preliminary engineering work for streetscape improvements on Telegraph Avenue. The focus of these improvements will be on integrating proposed bicycle and pedestrian improvements with the necessary improvements for the proposed AC Transit Bus Rapid Transit Program. Staff recommends that the Agency adopt the resolution authorizing an application for grant funding for this project.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The total budget for the grant proposal and/or any matching funding from the Agency has not yet been determined. If the grant application is accepted, staff will bring a second resolution before the Agency appropriating the grant funds and authorizing the expenditure of any matching funds. The submittal of this grant application will have no impact on the City or the General Fund.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Telegraph Avenue is a key thoroughfare connecting Downtown Oakland to the neighborhoods of North Oakland, Berkeley, and the University of California. Due to its importance as an inter-city thoroughfare, Telegraph has been selected as the preferred route for the AC Transit Bus Rapid Transit service for the San Leandro/Oakland/Berkeley corridor. In addition, Telegraph Avenue has been designated as a regional bicycle route and is one of the cross-County bicycle corridors in the Metropolitan Transit Commission's (MTC) Regional Bicycle Plan. Telegraph Avenue is not only a thoroughfare, it is also a major commercial corridor that serves as the hub of the Temescal District and is also the central focus of the fast-growing Korea Town district.

Due to its importance as a corridor, Telegraph Avenue has been the focus of numerous planning efforts that have looked at reconfiguring the alignment of the street to accommodate different modes of transportation. These planning efforts include, but are not limited too, the Telegraph-Northgate

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Plan, the City of Oakland Bicycle Master Plan, the Downtown Streetscape Improvement Plan, and AC Transit's Bus Rapid Transit Plan. The output of all these plans have resulted in some generally agreed upon principles for streetscape improvements on Telegraph which include pedestrian, bicycle, and bus-service related improvements. Critical elements of these improvements which are common to the multiple plans include: bike lanes, street trees, street furniture, lighting, bus rapid transit bus stops, and pedestrian bulb-outs. However, none of these plans has taken a **serious** look at how all of these desired improvements can be accommodated within the limited right-of-way of Telegraph Avenue without comprising the functionality of any mode of transportation.

The work that staff is proposing under our application for funding to the ACTIA Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund, is to build off of these existing planning efforts and create a true inter-modal design for Telegraph Avenue that accommodates bicycle, pedestrian, rapid bus service, and automobile use. Since so much planning ground work has already been done, the result of this effort will not just be another plan, but instead will include an in-depth feasibility study, cost estimation, and preliminary engineering work. Staff is still in the process of working with the Public Works Agency to put together a budget for this project. The total amount of grant funding that will be requested will be based on that budget.

Staff is going forward with this request for approval of the grant application prior to the determination of the project budget (and potential matching funds) in order to have the required resolution showing Agency approval in time for the grant application deadline, which is in early November. Staff plans to return to the Agency Board with permission to appropriate the grant amount and any matching funds if the grant is approved. The matching funds would likely come from project funds from the Broadway/MacArthur/San Pablo Redevelopment Project Area and the Central District Redevelopment Project Area Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

The ACTIA Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund is a new funding source intended to expand and enhance bicycle and pedestrian access in Alameda County with a focus on projects with Countywide significance. The funding for this program is from a portion of the Measure B sales tax that is reserved for Countywide planning and projects. This money is separate from the local Measure B transportation funds that the City receives on an annual basis.

For the 2003/04 funding cycle there is a total of \$1.5 million available under this fund. The maximum grant award amount is \$600,000. No matching funds are required but are encouraged. The ability of the project to leverage other sources of funds is one of the grant evaluation criteria. **All** phases of development are eligible for funding, from project planning to construction. The work completed through this grant must be completed within two years of receiving the project funds. Projects will be evaluated based on their intermodal connections, Countywide significance, gap closure, and ability to leverage outside funding.

The grant funds, if received, will be administered by the Redevelopment Agency. Staff plans to work closely with the Public Works Agency to oversee the feasibility study, design and engineering work. In addition, AC Transit has agreed to be a co-applicant with the City for the purpose of planning for Bus Rapid Transit on Telegraph Avenue.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic

Streetscape improvements on Telegraph Avenue will improve the physical and economic health of the area by improving the aesthetics, public safety, and accessibility on the commercial corridor.

Environmental

This project will address the use of alternative modes of transportation such as bicycles and transit and will therefore reduce automobile dependence for travel along Telegraph Avenue.

Social Equity

This project will have no effect on social equity.

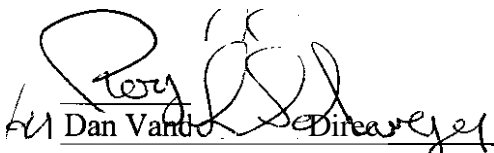
DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

This project will address improving disability and senior access as part of the streetscape improvements on Telegraph Avenue. Any improvements constructed as part of this project will be required to comply with city, state, and federal ADA requirements.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COUNCIL AND AGENCY MEMBERS

It is requested that the attached resolution be approved authorizing the Agency to submit an application for grant funding to the ACTIA Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund to cover the cost of design and preliminary engineering work for intermodal streetscape improvements on Telegraph Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,


Dan Vanderwey, Director of Redevelopment
Economic Development and Housing
Community and Economic Development Agency

Prepared by:
Kathy Kleinbaum
Urban Economic Analyst III

APPROVED AND FORWARDED
TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE


OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:
Mark P. Walsh
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
AGENCY COUNSEL
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REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C. M. S.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE MEASURE B BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COUNTYWIDE DISCRETION FUND FOR PLANNING AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR INTERMODAL STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS ON TELEGRAPH AVENUE

WHEREAS, the Redevelopment Agency formed the Broadway/MacArthur/San Pablo Redevelopment Project Area in June 2000; and

WHEREAS, the five year implementation plan for the Broadway/MacArthur/San Pablo Redevelopment Project Area includes streetscape improvements on Telegraph Avenue as a priority project; and

WHEREAS, the streetscape improvements on Telegraph Avenue will need to incorporate access for bicycles, pedestrians, automobiles, and an AC Transit bus rapid transit route; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority has released a call for projects for the Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund to request applications for grant funding; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Agency Administrator is authorized to apply for funding from the Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Countywide Discretionary Fund to pay for design work and feasibility and planning studies that coordinate proposed pedestrian, bicycle, automobile, and bus rapid transit improvements on Telegraph Avenue; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Agency has independently reviewed and considered this environmental determination, and the Agency finds and determines that this action complies with CEQA because this action on the part of the Agency is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15262 (feasibility and planning studies) of the CEQA guidelines; and be it

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FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Agency hereby authorizes the Agency Administrator to take all other actions necessary in accordance with this Resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That all documents shall be reviewed and approved by Agency Counsel prior to execution, and copies will be placed on file with the Agency Secretary.

IN AGENCY, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2003

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
CEDA FLOYD
Secretary of the Redevelopment
Agency of the City of Oakland

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