

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2008 JAN 10 PM 3:34

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Community and Economic Development Agency
DATE: January 22, 2008

RE: **Resolution Authorizing The City Of Oakland To Accept And Appropriate Seven Hundred Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$700,425.00) In Federal Cycle 1 Safe Routes To School Grant Funds For Pedestrian Safety Improvements At Various Schools Citywide**

SUMMARY

A resolution has been prepared for the City Council that authorizes the City Administrator, or her designee, to accept and appropriate a Federal Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS) Cycle 1 award in the amount of \$700,425.00. These funds allow the City to continue its ongoing efforts to install pedestrian safety improvements at schools throughout the city.

The Cycle 1 SRTS funds will be used for the design and construction of new sidewalk "bulb-outs" at intersections within walking distance of six schools, as follows:

- 1) Foothill Boulevard/62nd Avenue near Frick Junior High School
- 2) Foothill Boulevard/63rd Avenue near Frick Junior High School
- 3) San Pablo Avenue/Brockhurst Street near Hoover Elementary
- 4) E. 15th Street/9th Avenue near Franklin Elementary
- 5) Telegraph Avenue/63rd Street near Peralta Elementary
- 6) Grand Avenue/MacArthur Boulevard near Lakeview Elementary
- 7) Market Street/18th Street near Lafayette Elementary

The projects are located in Council districts 1, 2, 3, and 6.

FISCAL IMPACTS

Approval of this resolution will allow the City to accept and appropriate \$700,425.00 to design and construct these prioritized projects. Funds will be deposited and appropriated within the State of California Department of Transportation Fund (2140), Transportation Services Division Organization (92246), and a new project number will be established. The City is not required to provide a local match.

The required allocations for Contract Compliance will be set aside in the appropriate accounts upon approval of this resolution. The City's 1.5% public art fee is not an eligible expense under Federal SR2S Fund guidelines, which limit expenditures to bicycle and

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pedestrian safety improvements. For this reason, staff requests that this fee be waived for this project. Grant funds must be expended by 2012.

Ongoing maintenance costs as a result of the project improvements are expected to be minimal and will be absorbed within current maintenance appropriations.

BACKGROUND

The August 2005 passage of the Federal SAFETEA-LU (The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) established the new SRTS Program to improve school walking and bicycling conditions for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. The safety improvements must be located within a two-mile radius of a school. The \$700,425.00 award was granted to the City under this first federal cycle.

A parallel state-level Safe Routes to School program has funded several City projects over the past several years (Cycles 1-6). Like the federal SRTS funds, this state source was established to address and mitigate pedestrian and bicyclist safety issues at priority school locations. The City has installed new traffic signals, in-pavement crosswalk flashers, sidewalk bulb-outs, and pedestrian signal heads with the State funding. Awards have consisted of \$459,000.00 secured from the 1999-2000 SR2S Program (First Cycle), \$449,523.00 from the 2001-2002 SR2S Program (Second Cycle), \$441,045.00 from the 2003-2004 SR2S Program (Fourth Cycle), and \$384,912.00 from the 2005-2006 SR2S Program (Sixth Cycle) for projects throughout the City. The City is continuing to identify eligible priority projects and applying for the next round of State (Cycle 7) and Federal (Cycle 2) SRTS funds.

Community stakeholders and supporters of Safe Routes to School projects include a broad range of school personnel, parents, school volunteers, local residents and others. Several community-based groups work with the City on an ongoing basis to define potential projects for funding.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Adoption of this resolution will allow the City to accept and appropriate grant funds to address identified pedestrian issues near identified schools. The improvements will be installed on arterial streets with multiple travel lanes and traffic volumes as high as 38,700 vehicles per day. Four of the seven locations are pedestrian crossings without traffic controls. The proposed bulb-outs will improve pedestrian visibility, reduce the crossing distances, and calm traffic at the intersections.

Because of the large number of schools in Oakland, identifying locations also required the involvement of staff as well as people with firsthand experience of school sites throughout the City. Collaborative entities included the Transportation Services Division, Oakland Police Department (OPD), and Department of Human Services (DHS). Local knowledge came from Neighborhood Service Coordinators and staff from the Crossing Guard Program (OPD), Student Safety Patrol (OPD), and Safe Walk to School Program (DHS). Criteria for

evaluation included pedestrian collision data, the number of students at the schools, traffic volumes and speeds at key crossings, as well as the assigned locations of crossing guards and student safety patrols. Known issues at school crossings were also considered.

For each of the priority locations, Transportation Services Division staff examined the physical circumstances of each crossing to understand if a capital improvement was possible, if that improvement would provide a clear benefit to pedestrian safety, and if the improvement could be completed within the requirements of the SRTS program. Through this process, the final locations were selected for the SRTS Cycle 1 application.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The projects construct seven new ADA-compliant sidewalk bulb-outs at intersections identified below within walking distance of six schools:

- 1) Foothill Boulevard/62nd Avenue for Frick Junior High School
- 2) Foothill Boulevard/63rd Avenue for Frick Junior High School
- 3) San Pablo Ave/Brockhurst Street for Hoover Elementary
- 4) E. 15th Street/9th Ave for Franklin Elementary
- 5) Telegraph Ave/63rd Street for Peralta Elementary
- 6) Grand Ave/MacArthur Boulevard for Lakeview Elementary
- 7) Market Street/18th Street for Lafayette Elementary

The bulb-outs are focused on streets that serve as major walking corridors from nearby residential areas to schools, as well as on or near major bus transit corridors. These streets are also impacted by the morning commute traffic, which discourages walking to school. The projects will improve both safety and access for local students who walk along these corridors from home or transit stops.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Project implementation provides the opportunity to use local contractors that offer employment to Oakland residents, thereby strengthening the local economy. The projects help sustain neighborhood livability and home values by improving conditions for walking to school, and walking in general.

Environmental: The contractor is required to meet the City's Recycling and Waste Reduction Program goal of 50 percent. The project improves air quality by encouraging walking rather than driving to school.

Social Equity: The improvements will provide greater safety and accessibility to students and others who depend on walking and public transit for traveling to and from school.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

The bulb-outs will comply with all requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and improve access for students with disabilities, as well as senior citizens and other persons with disabilities.

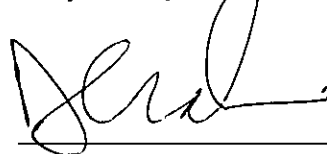
RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the City Administrator, or her designee, to accept and appropriate Federal Cycle 1 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program funds in the amount of \$750,425.00. The grant funds are needed to respond to the need for pedestrian safety improvements at various school locations citywide.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

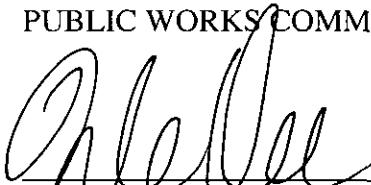


Dan Lindheim,
Interim Director, Community &
Economic Development Agency

Reviewed by:
Wladimir Wlassowsky, P.E.
Transportation Services Manager

Prepared by:
Joe Wang, P.E.
Supervising Transportation Engineer
Transportation Services Division

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:



Office of the City Administrator

Item: _____
Public Works Committee
January 22, 2008

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL


City Attorney

2000 JAN 10 PM 3:34

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF OAKLAND TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$700,425.00) IN FEDERAL CYCLE 1 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT FUNDS FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS CITYWIDE

WHEREAS, the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) disburses federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funds to eligible jurisdictions for projects that improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety within a two-mile radius of a school; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland desires to accept and appropriate the \$700,425.00 in Federal Cycle 1 SRTS funds for the purpose of appropriating said funding to Caltrans Fund (2140), and Public Works Agency, Transportation Services Division Organization (92246), to address eligible school pedestrian safety issues; and

WHEREAS, said funding will be used to construct pedestrian ADA-compliant bulb outs at the following intersections in close walking distance of public schools: 1) Foothill Boulevard/62nd Avenue near Frick Junior High School; 2) Foothill Boulevard/63rd Avenue near Frick Junior High School; 3) San Pablo Avenue/Brockhurst Street near Hoover Elementary School; 4) E. 15th Street/9th Avenue near Franklin Elementary School; 5) Telegraph Avenue/63rd Street near Peralta Elementary School; 6) Grand Avenue/MacArthur Boulevard near Lakeview Elementary School; 7) Market Street/18th Street for Lafayette Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the Community and Economic Development Agency has requested a waiver of the 1.5% public art fee for this project because SRTS guidelines restrict funding uses to safety improvements and prohibit the use of grant funds for public art; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes acceptance and appropriation of the Federal Cycle 1 Safe Routes to School Program funds in the amount of \$700,425.00 for the aforementioned eligible school safety improvements; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That these grant funds will be deposited and appropriated to Caltrans Fund (2140), Transportation Services Division Organization (92246) in a project number to be established; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator, or her designee, is authorized, on behalf of the City of Oakland, to execute and submit all documents, payment requests, and related actions, as well as to appropriate any additional grant funds received for the completion of this project.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20 _____

PASSED THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES – BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California