

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND
2008 JUN 26 PM 4:21

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Community and Economic Development Agency
DATE: July 8, 2008

RE: **Resolution Authorizing The City Of Oakland To Apply For, Accept, And Appropriate Up To Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000.00) In FY 2008-09 Transportation Fund For Clean Air (TFCA) Funds For The 7th Street (West Oakland BART) Streetscape Project**

SUMMARY

A resolution has been prepared for the City Council that authorize the City Administrator, or her designee, to apply for, accept, and appropriate up to \$450,000.00 in FY 2008-09 Regional Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds for the 7th Street (West Oakland BART) Streetscape Project, in Council District 2 to begin Phase II improvements proposed as a part of the 7th Street Urban Design Plan adopted in October 2004.

FISCAL IMPACTS

Approval of the resolution will allow the City to apply for, accept, and appropriate up to \$450,000.00 in grant funding for a priority bicycle/pedestrian/streetscape capital improvement project using FY 2007-08 Regional Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds which will be deposited and appropriated into the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Fund (2166), Planning Organization (88229). A new Project number will be established for the project.

TFCA requires a local match of 10% for applications for funds exceeding \$150,000.00. A total of \$45,000 is available for this match for the 7th Street Streetscape project in the MTC/CalTrans Program Grant Fund (2163), Engineering and Design Organization (92242), 7th Street West Oakland Transit Village Project (G313110)

Public Works staff will work with other City staff in reviewing and refining project plans and specifications and will provide future infrastructure maintenance cost estimates once the Phase II plans are final. Public Works and the Budget Office will identify potential maintenance funding sources and will present this information through the budget process.

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BACKGROUND

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District annually solicits employer proposals for TFCA projects that reduce air pollution, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 44225 and 44241. This project meets the TFCA qualifying criteria by encouraging bicycling, a non-motorized and non-polluting transportation mode.

7th Street Streetscape Project

The 7th Street Streetscape project was developed as a primary component of the West Oakland Transit Village Design Development Plan for the area around the West Oakland BART station by Walter Hood of Hood Design. The plan was developed using funding provided by the California Department of Transportation (Cal Trans), Transportation Planning Program Environmental Justice grant program. Project partners include the City of Oakland Public Works and Parks and Recreation Agencies, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), the Oakland Housing Authority, AC Transit, the US Postal Service, and the City of Alameda.

The project area, once home to numerous forms of transit and transportation, commerce and cultural institutions, has suffered from the negative impacts of transportation infrastructure since the 1950's. While it once thrived from its connections to the rail and the Port and benefited from employment and industry, it has been physically divided by freeway and rapid transit rails and structures, and continues to suffer today from the negative impacts of noise and shadow from these structures and the negative air quality resulting from vehicular traffic through the area. The project, when completed, will address both issues: by revitalizing the historical commercial area through traffic calming and streetscape improvements, and by defining and improving amenities and traffic configurations around the West Oakland BART station alternatives to reduce the impact of auto and truck traffic along 7th Street.

The project responds to community requests for traffic calming and will provide better bicycle access on 7th Street adjacent to the West Oakland BART station while creating better connectivity to area schools, parks, residential neighborhoods and light commercial activity. Transit services that are associated with the project include the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) West Oakland Station and AC Transit bus lines 62 and 13.

This project meets the Council-adopted criteria set forth in the *Resolution Establishing Prioritization Methods for the City of Oakland's Facilities and Structures, Parks and Open Space, Sewers, Storm Drains, Street, Sidewalks, and Traffic Improvement Infrastructure Needs*, (Number 78747, adopted July 20, 2004).

The 7th Street Project also meets the Air District's criteria for a "Smart Growth" project, including readiness to construct. TFCA Smart Growth grants fund "design and construction of physical improvements that support development projects that achieve motor vehicle emission reductions". Staff considered other Smart Growth projects, including the Coliseum and

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MacArthur BART streetscape projects. Since both these project previously received a regional TFCA grant, they are ineligible to compete again.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

7th Street Streetscape Project

Adoption of this resolution will allow the City to begin design on Phase II of the 7th Street Streetscape project, completing a critical gap in a significant bikeway connecting with a major transit corridor and providing additional parking to support mixed use development in the area.

Phase I of the project is in design with construction scheduled to begin by March 2009.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed improvements will help connect pedestrians and bicyclists from the local neighborhood to the main BART entry and encourage BART ridership and will connect rapid transit users to the 7th Street commercial historic district. Implementation of the completed design for 7th Street will enhance the quality of life for local residents by promoting economic revitalization through the enhanced attractiveness of slowing vehicular traffic and creating additional short term parking opportunities. Together, Phase I and Phase II of the streetscape project consist of approximately an eight block area between Union and Wood Streets, along 7th Street in West Oakland and includes pedestrian and bicycle amenities in the public right of way, including new widened sidewalks and bulb-outs, bicycle racks, new street and pedestrian lighting, and the Blues Walk of Fame. The Blues Walk of Fame project, sponsored by the Bay Area Blues Society, will memorialize the contributions and art of club owners, producers & the blues legends who made 7th Street the West Coast mecca for blues in the 1940's, 50's and 60's. The Plan will encourage additional residential development and provide incentives for residents of the City of Oakland to access the West Oakland BART station by foot, bicycle and local transit. The Plan also includes the implementation of the Blues Walk of Fame for the historic commercial area, an idea created and sponsored by the Bay Area Blues Society. In addition to the Walk of Fame and pedestrian lighting, a public art component that focuses on the West Oakland BART station as a Gateway, will be included as a part of the construction process.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Project implementation provides the opportunity to use local contractors which offer employment to Oakland residents, thereby strengthening the local economy.

Environmental: The project encourages bicycling for commuting as well as exercise, which can help reduce reliance on the automobile, save fossil fuels, and improve air quality.

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Social Equity: The project will provide greater accessibility and safety to persons who depend on non-motorized transportation and public transit to access jobs, recreational facilities, and other services.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

Wheelchair users can use bike lanes to access to curb ramps or parked vehicles. The bike lanes provide a striped buffer that improves sight distances, making it easier for seniors and disabled persons to cross the street.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the City Administrator, or her designee, to apply for, accept, and appropriate up to \$450,000.00 in FY 2008-09 Regional Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds for the 7th Street Streetscape Project.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



Dan Lindheim,
Director,
Community and Economic Development Agency

Prepared by:
Kerry Jo Ricketts-Ferris
Project Manager, CEDA Planning

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

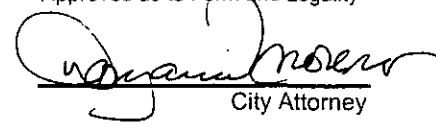


OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

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Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF OAKLAND TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND APPROPRIATE UP TO FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$450,000.00) IN FY 2008-09 TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR CLEAN AIR (TFCA) FUNDS FOR THE 7TH STREET (WEST OAKLAND BART) STREESCAPE PROJECT

WHEREAS, The City of Oakland supports clean air and wishes to take action to enhance air quality within the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, The Bay Area Air Quality Management District solicited employer proposals for FY 2008-09 Transportation Fund for Clean Air projects that reduce air pollution, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 44225 and 44241; and

WHEREAS, The City of Oakland desires to apply for, accept and appropriate up to \$450,000.00 in funding for the initiation of the second phase of the 7th Street (West Oakland BART) Streetscape Project between Wood and Peralta Streets as a part of the West Oakland Transit Village Project; and

WHEREAS, The City of Oakland will provide the required 10 percent local match for the TFCA funds from the MTC/CalTrans Program Grant Fund (2163), Engineering and Design Organization (92242), 7th Street/West Oakland Transit Village Project (G313110); and

WHEREAS, Said funding will allow the City to implement a portion of the features of the project master plan for the 7th Street Streetscape Project between Wood and Peralta Streets; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an application, and the acceptance and appropriation of funds, if awarded up to \$450,000.00 for the 7th Street (West Oakland BART) Streetscape Project; and
2. Appoints the City Administrator as agent of the City to conduct all negotiations and execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, and compliance with all applicable current state and federal laws which may be necessary for the completion of the grant funded under the Association of Bay Area Government funding program, subject to the approval of the City Attorney; and

3. Directs the Budget Office to appropriate grant funds received for this project to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Fund (2166); 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.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY 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