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APRIL 12, 2005

IGNACIO DE LA FUENTE, PRESIDENT  
CITY COUNCIL  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**SUBJECT: 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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#### PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In accordance with the Measure H Charter Amendment, which was passed by the voters at the General election of November 5, 1996, we have made an impartial financial analysis of the accompanying Proposed Resolution and Agenda Report. In making our analysis, we met with Agency staff and also obtained additional information and clarification.

The City Auditor is elected by the citizens of Oakland to serve as an officer in charge of an independent department auditing City government activities. The independence of the City Auditor is established by the City Charter.

Since the Measure H Charter Amendment specifies that our impartial financial analysis is for informational purposes only, we did not apply Generally Accepted Government Auditing

Standards as issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Moreover, the scope of our analysis was impaired by Administrative Instruction Number 137, effective May 21, 1997, which provides only two (2) weeks for us to plan, perform and report on our analysis. Due to this time constraint, we did not verify data contained in the Proposed Resolutions and Agenda Report.

## **SUMMARY**

The Proposed Resolutions involve the first phase of the Revive Chinatown Pedestrian-Oriented Improvements Project (Project). The Project is anticipated to include the following improvements:

<b>Improvement</b>	<b>Improvement</b>
Corner bulb-outs	Street trees at bulb-outs
Scramble traffic signals	Crosswalk striping
Pedestrian-scale lighting	Street furniture
Alameda wayfinding signs	Bilingual signage
Pedestrian countdown timers	

A corner bulb-out is an extension of where the sidewalk meets the intersection. The extension will be built into the street in a rounded fashion. A wider portion of the corner will be devoted to the curb ramp compared to existing intersections.

Scramble traffic signals allow pedestrians on all four corners to cross at the same time. Pedestrians can walk to the diagonal corner with scramble traffic signals.

Street furniture includes items such as newspaper racks and trash receptacles.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The state Metropolitan Transportation Commission awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$2,200,000 to the City for the Project. The federal grant award is contingent upon local matching funds that must total at least 11.47% of the project amount, or \$285,033.

The following table shows the breakdown of the funds proposed for the Project:

Federal grant		\$2,200,000
Local match:		
Redevelopment funds	\$159,000	
FY 04-05 Measure B funds	138,000	
FY 05-06 Measure B funds	<u>180,000</u>	<u>477,000</u>
Total project funds		<u>\$2,677,000</u>

Although the required minimum local match is \$285,033, staff is requesting additional local funds in the amount of \$191,967 for the Project as follows:

Proposed local funding	\$477,000
Minimum local match @11.47%	<u>(285,033)</u>
	<u>\$191,967</u>

We asked staff if there was a specific element within the Project these additional funds are meant to cover. Staff responded the funds could be utilized for any element of the Project.

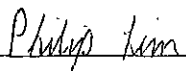
Measure B funds are provided from the half-cent sales tax approved by Alameda County voters in 1986 and renewed in 2000. The funds were authorized for transportation projects including projects to improve pedestrian access and safety. Measure B funds of \$138,000 were approved in the City's fiscal year (FY) 2004-05 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget. The additional \$180,000 is requested as part of the FY 2005-06 CIP budget, which has not been adopted to date.


### CONCLUSION

The Project is intended to improve the pedestrian experience in Oakland Chinatown. The proposed funding for the Project is \$2,677,000, of which \$477,000 consists of local funds. The local funds include the required match amount of \$285,033. The difference of \$191,967 is additional local funds committed to the Project.

Prepared by:

Issued by:

  
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Report completion date:  
April 4, 2005