

**CITY OF OAKLAND
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
JUL 11 2006 1:21

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Public Works Agency
DATE: July 11, 2006

RE: **Resolution Authorizing The City Of Oakland To Apply For, Accept, And Appropriate Up To Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) In FY 2006-07 Transportation Fund For Clean Air (TFCA) Funds For The MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway, Park Boulevard To Lincoln Avenue Gap Closure**

SUMMARY

A resolution has been prepared for the City Council that authorizes the City Administrator, or her designee, to apply for, accept, and appropriate up to \$400,000.00 in FY 2006-07 Regional Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds for the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway, Park Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue Gap Closure, in Council Districts 2, 4, and 5.

FISCAL IMPACTS

Approval of the resolution will allow the City to apply for, accept, and appropriate up to \$400,000.00 in grant funding for a priority bicycle capital improvement project using FY 2006-07 Regional Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds. Funds will be deposited and appropriated into the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Fund (2166), Traffic Engineering Organization (92246), and a new Project (G258820) will be established.

TFCA requires a local match of 10% for applications for funds exceeding \$150,000.00. A total of \$189,200.00 is available for this match in two other fund sources for this project: \$166,200.00 of Bicycle Transportation Account funds available in the California Department of Transportation Fund (2140), Traffic Engineering Organization (92246), MacArthur-Park/Lincoln Project (G258810); and \$23,000.00 for feasibility and design is available in the MTC Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Fund (2162), Traffic Engineering Organization (92246), MacArthur Boulevard TDA Project (G217410).

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

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The City's 1.5% public art fee is not an eligible expense under TFCA guidelines. For this reason, the resolution requests that this fee be waived for this project.

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.

The project responds to community requests for traffic calming and will provide better bicycle access on MacArthur Boulevard adjacent to schools, parks, residential neighborhoods and light commercial activity.

The City, County, and Regional Bicycle Plans all identify MacArthur Boulevard as a priority bicycle corridor. The City's hilly topography, combined with a discontinuous street layout resulting from the placement of Highway 580, limit opportunities for providing east-west bicycle access east of Lake Merritt. MacArthur Boulevard offers the only continuous east-west through route south of Mountain Boulevard and north of the Bancroft/Foothill Bikeway, providing access to the north end of Lake Merritt, the Grand Avenue Bikeway, and downtown Oakland.

The MacArthur Bikeway project will close a gap between two existing bike lane segments, from Lakeshore Avenue to Park Boulevard on the west, and Lincoln Avenue to 35th Avenue on the east. In 2003, the City Council authorized acceptance of a grant for \$200,000.00 from the State Bicycle Transportation Account to construct this project. A time extension was recently granted to the City for expenditure of these grant funds in order to adequately address AC Transit concerns about potential impacts of the bikeway on bus operations.

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 MacArthur Bikeway Project also meets the funding agency's criteria for eligibility, including readiness to construct. Staff considered other projects, including bike lanes on Havenscourt Boulevard (Bancroft to International), San Leandro Street (66th to 105th Avenues), 27th Street/Bay Place (Grand Avenue to Market Street), and Grand Avenue (Market Street to Mandela Parkway) and determined that these projects were not ready because feasibility studies and/or community outreach had not been completed.

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KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Adoption of this resolution will allow the City to complete the project, closing a critical gap in a significant bikeway.

Acceptance of the TFCA funds addresses a \$400,000.00 project shortfall, resulting from increased project costs for both design and construction. It also allows the City to use the \$200,000.00 of previously approved Bicycle Transportation Account funds, which cannot be used without additional funding.

The City is currently performing additional analysis to ensure that the proposed bike lanes will not impact AC Transit operations, and to finalize design of the westbound route in the corridor, including needed intersection improvements at Park Boulevard where the existing bikeway continues west to Lakeshore Avenue. This work is expected to be completed in July. Based on the results of the analysis and subsequent staff evaluation, AC Transit review, and community outreach, the proposed design may be slightly modified. If lane removal to accommodate bike lanes is recommended from Canon Avenue to Fruitvale Avenue, City Council will be asked to authorize this design concurrent with approval of the construction contract. The project does not require any other lane removal or the removal of any parking spaces.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The MacArthur Commuter Bikeway, Park Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue Gap Closure Project, consists of a 1.25 mile combined Class II (striped, signed) and Class III (signed only) bicycle facility between Park Boulevard and Lincoln Avenue. As shown on the attached map (Attachment A), the proposed design constructs one-way bicycle lanes beginning at Park Boulevard in the eastbound direction on MacArthur Boulevard and E. 33rd Street, and two-way bicycle lanes on 14th Avenue. Two-way bike lanes will be striped on MacArthur Boulevard from 14th Avenue to Canon Avenue, and from Fruitvale Avenue to Lincoln Avenue. The segment from Canon Avenue to Fruitvale Avenue is currently under study (“special study area”) to ensure that AC Transit and business district concerns are addressed. In the westbound direction, the route departs from MacArthur Boulevard. A Class III bike route will be signed on Excelsior Avenue from Randolph Avenue or Ardley Avenue to the project’s western limit where it adjoins the existing bike lanes on MacArthur Boulevard, and intersection improvements will be made to facilitate cyclists’ safe crossing of Park Boulevard. The design will be finalized, pending the completion of the additional analysis and review by the community, AC Transit, and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

The project closes a gap with the MacArthur Boulevard bicycle lanes constructed between Park Boulevard and Lakeshore Avenue to the west as well as with bike lanes constructed between

Lincoln Avenue and 35th Avenue to the east. When completed, the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway will provide continuous bike access from several neighborhoods and the Dimond commercial district to Lakeshore Avenue and Lake Merritt. The completed corridor will connect with planned bike lanes on Lakeshore Avenue approved as part of the Measure DD improvements. It will also improve access to the Grand Avenue and Santa Clara Avenue bike lanes, building cross-town connectivity to downtown employment and public transit nodes. The project will also improve neighborhood bicycle access to the planned, Measure DD-funded bicycle and pedestrian path to be constructed around Lake Merritt, improving nonmotorized access to the Lake for recreation and exercise.

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.

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 \$400,000.00 in FY 2006-07 Regional Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds for the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway, Park Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue Gap Closure.

The grant funds are needed to construct a critical gap in the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway, a priority bikeway project identified on the City, County, and Regional Bicycle Master Plans.

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ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

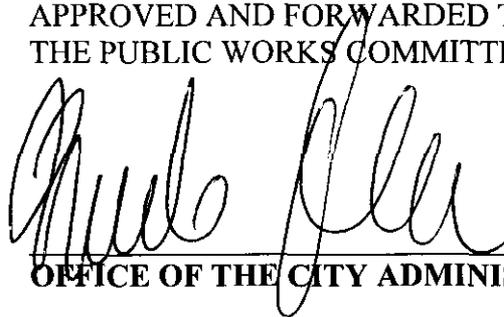


RAUL GODINEZ II, P.E.
Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:
Michael J. Neary, P.E.
Assistant Director, Public Works Agency
Design & Construction Services Department

Prepared by:
Kathryn Hughes
Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Manager

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

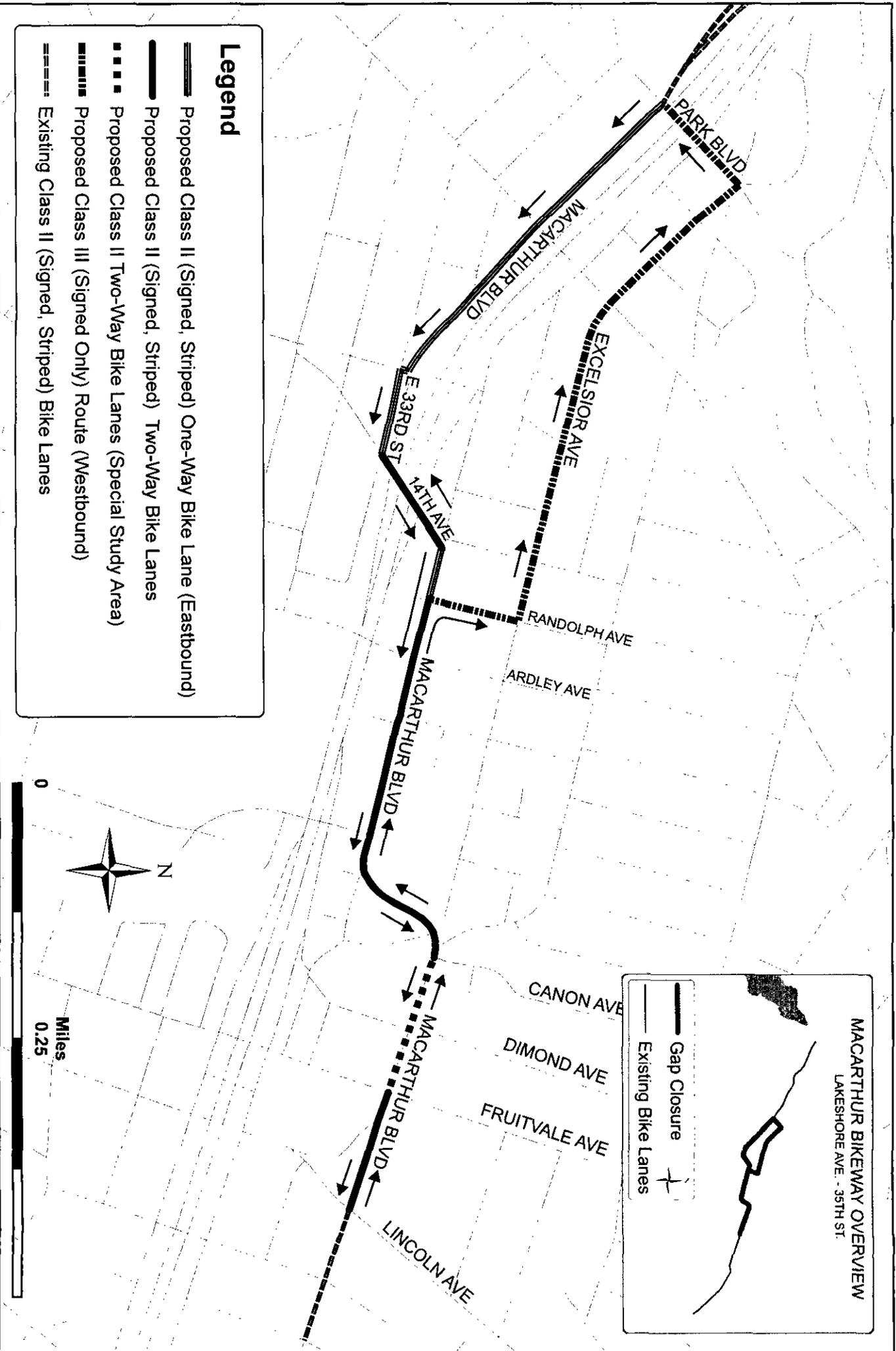


OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

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PROJECT AREA MAP

MACARTHUR BLVD. COMMUTER BIKEWAY PARK BLVD. - LINCOLN AVE. GAP CLOSURE



[Signature]
Oakland City Attorney's Office

OFFICE

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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 (\$400,000.00) IN FY 2006-07 TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR CLEAN AIR (TFCA) FUNDS FOR THE MACARTHUR BOULEVARD BIKEWAY, PARK BOULEVARD TO LINCOLN AVENUE GAP CLOSURE

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 2006-07 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 \$400,000.00 in funding for the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway, Park Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue Gap Closure, from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Agency has requested a waiver of the 1.5% public art fee for this project because TFCA guidelines prohibit the use of grant funds for public art when public art is not a project component; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland will provide the required 10 percent local match for the TFCA funds from Bicycle Transportation Account funds totaling \$166,200.00 available in the California Department of Transportation Fund (2140), Traffic Engineering Organization (92246), MacArthur-Park/Lincoln Project (G258810); and \$23,000.00 for design is available in the MTC Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Fund (2162), Traffic Engineering Organization (92246), MacArthur Boulevard TDA Project (G217410); and

WHEREAS, said funding will allow the City to close the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway gap between Park Boulevard and Lincoln Avenue, a priority project on the City, County, and Regional bike plans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Oakland to apply for, accept, and appropriate up to \$400,000.00 in FY 2006-07 TFCA funds to design and construct the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway, Park Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue Gap Closure; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That if awarded, grant funds totaling up to \$400,000.00 shall be deposited and appropriated into the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Fund (2166), Traffic Engineering Organization (92246), and Project (G258820), 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 funds received for the completion of the project; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City's 1.5% public art fee is hereby waived; 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, _____, 2006

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