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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2018 SEP 27 PM 2: 01

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Sabrina B. Landreth
City Administrator

FROM: William A. Gilchrist
Director, Planning and
Building

SUBJECT: Transformative Climate Communities
Grant

DATE: September 17, 2018

City Administrator Approval

Date:

9/26/18

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator Or Their Designee To Apply For, Accept, And Execute All Related Documents For Grant Funds In An Amount Of Twenty-Three Million Dollars (\$23,000,000) To Thirty-Three Million Dollars (\$33,000,000), Depending On The Grant Amount, From The State's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program, Administered By The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) And Department Of Conservation, For Projects Within Or Contiguous To The East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative Project Area

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the proposed resolution authorizing the City Administrator, or their designee, to proceed with applying for funding from the State's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program. The Implementation Grant can fund affordable housing and park, transportation, bike and pedestrian improvements as well as workforce and economic development opportunities while reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This resolution is a requirement of the TCC application, which has a submittal deadline of October 30, 2018.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Last fall, three East Oakland-based community organizations (East Oakland Building Healthy Communities, HOPE Collaborative, and the Oakland Climate Action Coalition), approached the City of Oakland Planning Bureau with a request to co-apply with them for a grant from the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) to help East Oakland neighborhoods plan strategies to reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, and build resiliency in the face of a changing climate.

The City of Oakland Planning Bureau agreed to be a co-applicant on the Planning Grant with East Oakland Building Healthy Communities, HOPE Collaborative, and the Oakland Climate Action Coalition (collectively "Co-Applicants"); along with the following partner organizations -

Item: _____
CED Committee
Oct. 9, 2018

Acta Non Verba, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), East Oakland Collective, Higher Ground Neighborhood Planning Corp., Local Clean Energy Alliance, Merritt College Institute for Sustainable Policy Studies and Action, Original Scrapper Bike Team, Planting Justice, Sobrante Park Resident Action Council, and Urban ReLeaf (collectively “Partners”). On January 29, 2018, SGC selected the City of Oakland, along with the Co-Applicants and Partners, to receive a TCC Planning Grant of \$170,000, for completion of the East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative (Initiative). A map of the Initiative Area is shown in **Attachment A**.

The goal of the Initiative is to support community driven, neighborhood-wide resilience planning. Focus areas include health, green infrastructure, urban greening without gentrification/displacement, active transit, renewable energy, and mitigation and resilience strategies that engage, educate, and empower East Oakland residents. On January 29, 2018, the grant was awarded to the City, Co-Applicants, and Partners and together, these organizations will connect existing and emerging neighborhood plans to develop an actionable plan that will help inform the City’s focus on equity, environmental justice, anti-displacement, and sustainable economic and workforce development (including cooperatives and green jobs) in East Oakland. Residents and community organizations of six East Oakland neighborhoods will lead planning efforts. Neighborhoods include Brookfield Village/Columbia Gardens; Coliseum/Rudsdale/Lockwood/Havenscourt; Highland/Elmhurst; Sobrante Park; Stonehurst; and Melrose.

On August 15, 2018, the TCC Program issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Round 2 of the TCC Program for an Implementation Grant that will fund activities that reduce GHG emissions through the development and implementation of neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that include multiple, coordinated GHG emissions reduction projects that provide local economic, environmental, and health benefits to disadvantaged communities. The Implementation Grant, which is awarded to two separate municipalities over the course of a grant cycle, provides between twenty-three million dollars (\$23,000,000) and thirty-three million dollars (\$33,000,000) to each awardee to build infrastructure that advances program goals of climate resilience, social equity, and GHG reductions.

The Implementation Grant would be for projects within or contiguous to the same project area as the Planning Grant. The Implementation Grant requires applicants to submit at least three eligible projects—meaning that, among other criteria, projects are more than 30 percent complete in their design—that advance TCC program goals. There is a match of at least 50 percent of the total funds requested from the State with other public funds, and the projects must be completed within five years of executing a grant agreement with the State of California. Complete grant guidelines and requirements can be found on the TCC website at: http://www.sgc.ca.gov/programs/tcc/docs/20180815-TCC_Final_GUIDELINES_07-31-2018.pdf

The Implementation Grant application is due on October 30, 2018. The City of Oakland had intended to apply for the 2019 Implementation Grant cycle upon completion of the Planning Grant, but there are compelling reasons to apply within the current deadline. SGC staff emphasized that funding for the program is not guaranteed for 2019, given that it is an appropriation, and there will be a new governor. Furthermore, potential awardees are currently limited to the top five percent most environmentally impacted communities in California, as calculated by the State of California’s Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment’s

(OEHHA) CalEnviroScreen tool. If funding were to continue for 2019, SGC staff advised Bureau of Planning staff that the potential applicant pool will be expanded to include the top 25 percent most environmentally impacted communities in California. Given that funding is not guaranteed for 2019, and if it is ultimately approved, will be significantly more competitive, the City Administrator or their designee has decided to apply for the TCC Implementation Grant by the 2018 application deadline.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

The six East Oakland neighborhoods in the grant area are low-income communities of color with relatively high percentages of immigrant families. The local community organizations that are the Co-applicants and Partners have long-standing relationships, trust, and membership bases within these communities.

The East Oakland communities that are the focus of this planning effort contain important assets and are working towards positive change, but their residents are historically burdened by challenges related to climate change, environmental justice and socioeconomics. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) considers East Oakland to be a "Community of Concern." The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) includes East Oakland in the Community Air Risk Evaluation Program for having greater negative public health impacts from being located near pollution sources, such as the I-880 freeway, busy distribution centers, and large and numerous industrial facilities. East Oakland is also identified as having disproportionately high cumulative health risks and lower average life expectancies by the Alameda County Public Health Department. Furthermore, the Public Health Department documents how low-income communities of color experience even higher cumulative health risks relative to other groups in the County.

The Implementation Grant application will be composed of existing projects—specifically those that are in the midst of planning and evaluation, those that have been planned but are only partially funded, and those that have been planned but not yet implemented for other reasons. All projects included in the application will thus be congruent with the City of Oakland General Plan and all other local and neighborhood plans.

The grant award will result in innovative and community-supported infrastructure that improve air and water quality, reduce GHG emissions, increase housing affordability and economic prosperity, protects natural resources, strengthens climate resiliency, and augments public transportation. City of Oakland departments are working together to identify at least three viable projects that meet TCC eligibility requirements. Through community meetings and other outreach, East Oakland residents and community partners of the Planning Grant will participate in selecting the projects to be included in the application.

The City of Oakland departments to identify projects that fulfil TCC eligibility criteria include the: Department of Transportation (DOT), Public Works Department (OPW), Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD), Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), and City Administrator's Office (CAO).

If awarded the Implementation Grant, Planning staff and community partners will conduct additional community engagement activities to provide resident input on the components of each project still available for revision (as per grant guidelines, projects do not need to be 100 percent planned in order to be considered eligible, which leaves substantial room for community feedback). These efforts could coincide with the already-planned Planning Grant community meetings, or be distinct from them. As per grant guidelines, up to eight percent of the total funding request can be spent on community outreach activities and materials.

As per the grant guidelines, up to five percent of the total funding request can be spent on workforce development and job training programs. City staff and community partners want to ensure that East Oakland residents benefit from this grant opportunity in addition to the environmental benefits it provides.

Securing the TCC Program funds will contribute to the City's affordable housing development goals and can also support important infrastructure including work on the City's complete streets program (including bike and pedestrian improvements) as well as park improvements along with workforce and economic development opportunities. Upgrades to all proposed City infrastructure will reduce the costs of maintaining aging infrastructure. In addition, it will prepare the City for its projected population growth and key objectives to create a sustainable and revitalized urban environment and fulfill the objectives of reducing reliance on automobile travel (vehicle miles traveled or VMT) and increasing affordable housing, as well as reducing GHG emissions.

Staff is requiring adoption of this Resolution by the City Council meeting on October 16, 2018, to meet the application deadline.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact to the City is the staff time dedicated to work on implementing the grant as well as working with various City departments. Additionally, staff time is required to assist with writing the TCC program application. However, the potential benefits in terms of affordable housing and infrastructure funding for integral projects is substantial, making it an excellent investment of City staff time.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

Eligible projects for the TCC Program must demonstrate that there has been some form of outreach to the community to evaluate the proposed projects. Public infrastructure project grant applicants must demonstrate that the project is included in a public community plan (e.g. specific plan, bicycle master plan, station area plan, service expansion plan, or other types of community plans).

COORDINATION

The CAO, OPW, DOT, HCDD, and EWDD as well as our state partner agency, SGC will be able to build on PBD's ongoing work on the current planning grant in this upcoming grant application. Inevitably, this will improve overall services to the Oakland community and support the region's goals on sustainability and resiliency. This report was prepared in coordination between PBD Finance Department, and the City Attorney's Office. On-going project management and neighborhood meetings will occur in coordination with DOT, OPW, HCDD, and EWDD, depending on the project.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Studies and health needs assessments reveal that the East Oakland residents and employees in the Initiative Area (**Attachment A**) experience economic underinvestment in a greater proportion than that of other areas of Oakland. The infrastructure resultant constructed after receipt of this grant will improve quality of life in the East Oakland target area and make it a more livable community. Two goals of the TCC program are promoting a prosperous economy and revitalizing urban centers. These grant funds will be used to improve East Oakland's ability to attract businesses and investment.

Environmental: The census tracts in the Initiative Area rank, according to the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 scale, in the top five percent to 25 percent most disadvantaged areas in the State of California, having high levels of air pollution (a result of adjacency to heavy industrial activities and the region's busiest freeway), water pollution, unemployment, low birth weights, and extreme poverty. The infrastructure upon which the grant application will be based will address the most significant barriers to health in East Oakland. TCC program guidelines call for reducing GHG emissions, improving air and water quality, and protecting natural resources – all of which would contribute to limiting negative human impacts on the environment.

Social Equity: The TCC Implementation Grant will provide infrastructure funding to a community that is still far behind the rest of Oakland when it comes to health and socioeconomic metrics. The capital improvements provided by this grant will directly benefit some of Oakland's most disadvantaged residents. By improving public transit, creating more affordable housing, and increasing green infrastructure, this opportunity will relieve some of the negative environmental impacts with which East Oakland residents are faced every day.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator Or Their Designee To Apply For, Accept, And Execute All Related Documents For Grant Funds In An Amount Of Twenty-Three Million Dollars (\$23,000,000) To Thirty-Three Million Dollars (\$33,000,000), Depending On The Grant Amount, From The State's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program, Administered By The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) And Department Of Conservation, For Projects Within Or Contiguous To The East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative Project Area.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Laura Kaminski, Acting Strategic Planning Manager, at 510-238-6809.

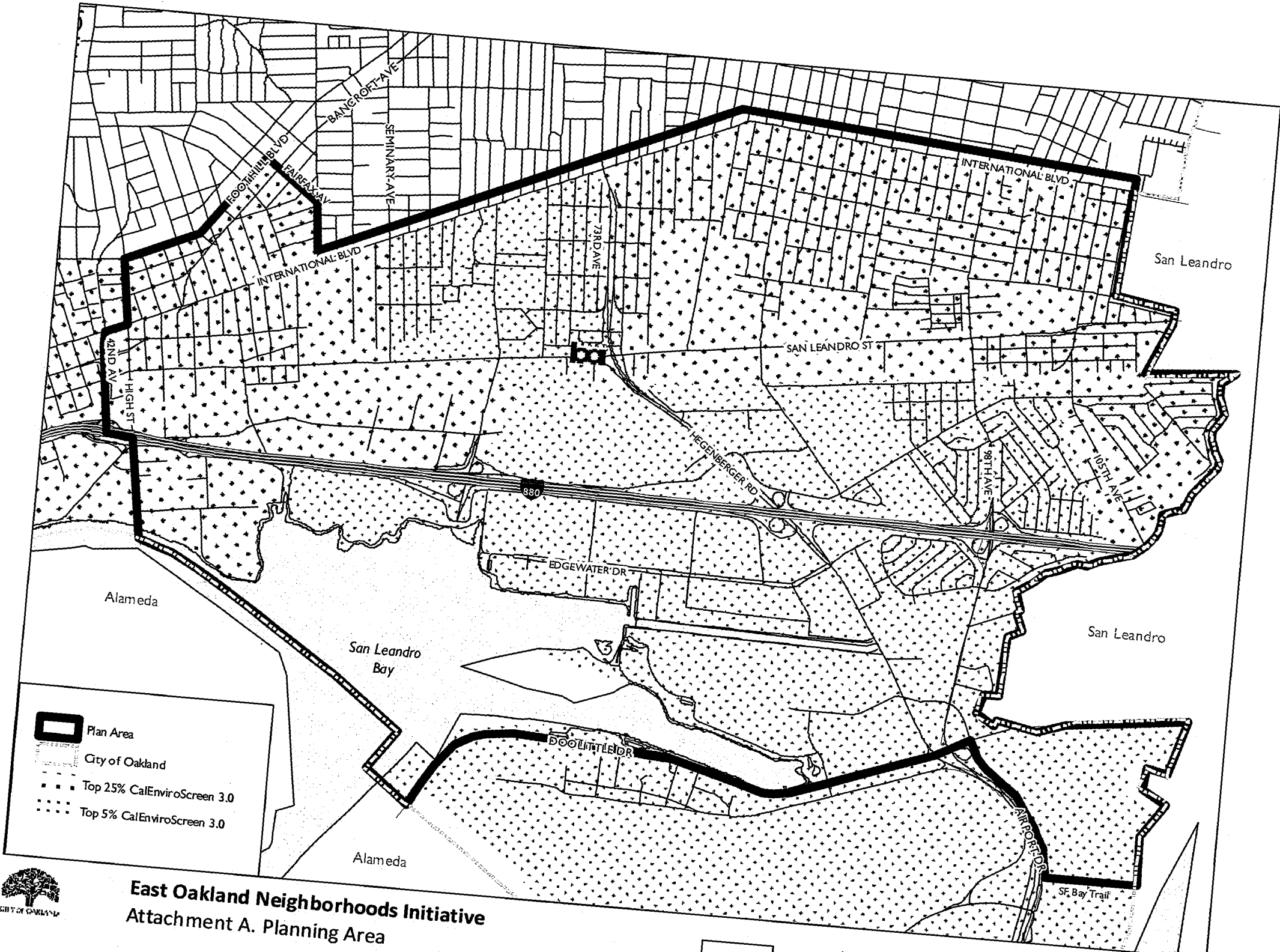
Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM A. GILCHRIST
Director, Planning and Building Department

Prepared by:
Dylan Hamilton, Planner II
Laura Kaminski, Acting Strategic Planning
Manager

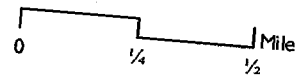
Attachments (1):
A: Map of East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative Area



East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative
Attachment A. Planning Area



CITY OF OAKLAND



Planning and Building Department
 April 11, 2018

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL


City Attorney

2018 SEP 27 PM 2:01 RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR THEIR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS FOR GRANT FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT OF TWENTY-THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$23,000,000) TO THIRTY-THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$33,000,000), DEPENDING ON THE GRANT AMOUNT, FROM THE STATE’S TRANSFORMATIVE CLIMATE COMMUNITIES (TCC) PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY THE CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL (SGC) AND DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, FOR PROJECTS WITHIN OR CONTIGUOUS TO THE EAST OAKLAND NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE PROJECT AREA

WHEREAS, the City Council directed as part of its adoption of the 2017-2019 City budget that the Bureau of Planning prepare a neighborhood plan for an area in East Oakland as identified by the Planning and Building Department (PBD), in consultation with the Department of Race and Equity, as part of a Neighborhood Planning Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, the East Oakland neighborhoods of Brookfield Village/Columbia Gardens, Coliseum/Rudsdale/Lockwood/Havenscourt, Highland/Elmhurst, Sobrante Park, Stonehurst, and Melrose that are the focus of this planning effort contain important assets and are working towards positive change, but their residents are historically burdened by challenges related to climate change, environmental justice and socioeconomics; and

WHEREAS, these East Oakland neighborhoods fall within census tracts that rank, according to the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 scale, in the top five percent to 25 percent most disadvantaged areas in the State of California, having high levels of air pollution (a result of adjacency to heavy industrial activities and the region’s busiest freeway), water pollution, unemployment, low birth weights, and extreme poverty; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) considers East Oakland to be a “Community of Concern” and The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) includes East Oakland in the Community Air Risk Evaluation Program for having greater negative public health impacts from being located near pollution sources, such as the I-880 freeway, busy distribution centers, and large and numerous industrial facilities; and

WHEREAS, East Oakland is also identified as having disproportionately high cumulative health risks and lower average life expectancies by the Alameda County Public Health Department. Furthermore, the Alameda County Public Health Department documents how low-income communities of color experience even higher cumulative health risks relative to other groups in the County; and

WHEREAS, in Fall 2017, three East Oakland-based community organizations (East Oakland Building Healthy Communities, HOPE Collaborative, and the Oakland Climate Action Coalition) approached the City's Bureau of Planning with a request to co-apply with them for a TCC Planning Grant from SGC to help East Oakland neighborhoods plan strategies to reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, and build resiliency in the face of a changing climate; and

WHEREAS, the City's Bureau of Planning agreed to be co-applicant on the SGC Planning Grant and jointly applied on November 30, 2017 for the grant with East Oakland Building Healthy Communities, HOPE Collaborative, and the Oakland Climate Action Coalition ("Co-Applicants"); along with the following partner organizations: Acta Non Verba, Communities for a Better Environment, East Oakland Boxing Association, East Oakland Collective, Higher Ground Neighborhood Planning Corp., Local Clean Energy Alliance, Merritt College Institute for Sustainable Policy Studies and Action, Original Scraper Bike Team, Planting Justice, Repaired Nations, Sobrante Park Resident Action Council, Sogorea Te Land Trust and Urban ReLeaf ("Partners"); and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2018, SGC selected the City of Oakland, along with the Co-Applicants and Partners, to receive a TCC Planning Grant of one hundred and seventy thousand dollars (\$170,000), for completion of an East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative;

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2018, TCC Program issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Round 2 of the TCC Program for implementation of grant funded activities that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the development and implementation of neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that include multiple, coordinated GHG emissions reduction projects that provide local economic, environmental, and health benefits to disadvantaged communities; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to apply for TCC Program funds and submit the Application Package released by SGC for the TCC Program; and

WHEREAS, a resolution is required to submit the Application Package for which the City of Oakland is an applicant; and

WHEREAS, for Round 2 of the TCC Program for the Implementation Grant will be awarded to two different communities in an amount of either twenty-three million (\$23,000,000) or thirty-three million (\$33,000,000) for each community; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for the Implementation Grant, at least 51% of the Project Area must be covered by census tracts that rank, according to the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 scale, in the top 5% and the remainder of the Project Area covered by Low-income (AB 1550) or top 25% on the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 scale; and

WHEREAS, the California SGC has indicated its intention to award Implementation Grants only to the most competitive projects in Round 2 and encourages all interested applicants to apply for a TCC grant in 2018 due to uncertainty of future available funding for the Implementation Grant in 2019. Further, in 2019 there will likely be greater competition than in

2018 because SGC plans to augment the qualifying criteria to communities within the top 25 percent on the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 scale, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City Administrator or their designee on behalf of the City of Oakland, is hereby authorized and directed to apply for and submit to SGC an application for Round 2 TCC Implementation Grant in an amount of twenty-three million dollars (\$23,000,000) to thirty-three million dollars (\$33,000,000); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the application is approved, the City Administrator or their designee is authorized to act on behalf of the City of Oakland to accept a TCC Implement Grant in an amount of twenty-three million dollars (\$23,000,000) to thirty-three million dollars (\$33,000,000), and execute any and all other related documents required or deemed necessary to secure the TCC Program grant funds from SGC for the East Oakland Neighborhoods Initiative Project Area, and all amendments thereto; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Administrator is authorized to negotiate and enter into an agreement that provides for joint and several liability and mutual indemnities between joint applicants as the City Administrator deems necessary; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that said documents shall be reviewed and approved by the Office of the City Attorney for form and legality and placed on file in the Office of the City Clerk; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby appoints the City Administrator or their designee on behalf of the City of Oakland to execute, in the name of City of Oakland, SGC Application Package and the California SGC Documents as required for participation in the TCC Program, and to take whatever other action is necessary with respect to the TCC Program consistent with this Resolution and its basic purposes.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN and PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

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