



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: James R. Helmer
Larry D. Lisenbee

**SUBJECT: 2006-2007 TRANSPORTATION FUND
FOR CLEAN AIR GRANTS**

DATE: 11-01-06

Approved

Date

11/3/06

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide
SNI AREA: East Valley/680
13th Street

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute a Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) grant agreement with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) that will provide for the City's receipt of grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$640,000 for the following two transportation projects:
1. Light Rail Transit Controller Upgrade Project in an amount not to exceed \$600,000
 2. Installation of Sidewalk Bicycle Racks in an amount not to exceed \$40,000
- B. Adopt an Appropriation Ordinance and Funding Sources Resolution Amendment to the Building and Structure Construction Tax Fund as follows:
1. Increase the estimate for Earned Revenue by \$300,000.
 2. Increase the appropriation for the ITS Capitol Light Rail Transit Signal Upgrade project by \$185,000.
 3. Increase the Ending Fund Balance by \$115,000.
- C. Adopt an Appropriation Ordinance and Funding Sources Resolution Amendment to the Construction Excise Tax Fund as follows:
1. Increase the estimate for Earned Revenue by \$40,000.
 2. Increase the Ending Fund Balance by \$40,000.

OUTCOME

Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the grant agreement will allow the City to receive TFCA grant funds from VTA to replace 41 traffic signal controllers along Capitol

Avenue and other key Light Rail intersections and install approximately 200 sidewalk bicycle racks citywide.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Transportation (DOT) actively pursues grant funds for projects that support the goals of the Transportation City Service Area. The City has been approved by VTA to receive TFCA grant funds for two transportation projects. In order to secure these grant funds, a funding agreement for the above funds must be executed by December 1, 2006 between the City (sponsor agency) and VTA (granting agency).

The purpose of the first project is to replace 41 of 94 existing light rail traffic signal controllers, which were first deployed in 2002 along Guadalupe, Tasman, Capitol and Vasona light rail corridors. The controller hardware and software was designed to allow light rail trains to progress through signalized intersections with minimal stops, and with minimal impact to vehicular flow and safety. However, significant technical challenges have prevented these controllers from functioning as originally envisioned. As traffic volumes along light rail corridors continue to increase, the deficiencies of these controllers have become more apparent. The controller's inability to maintain signal coordination or execute other designed features has caused longer than acceptable delays for motor vehicles at light rail intersections. City staff has worked diligently with the controller vendor over the last three years to improve functionality of the existing controllers. However, based on the limited success of these efforts, City staff is recommending deployment of new controllers that operate on proven light rail transit firmware and industry standard 2070 controllers already in use by other transit agencies.

The second project supports the City's Bicycle Master Plan requirement of providing safe and secure bicycle parking facilities within public right of way.

ANALYSIS

Authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the grant funding agreement would result in the City receiving funds from two separate TFCA grants that would help fund the design and implementation of two transportation projects as follows:

ITS Capitol Light Rail Transit Signal Upgrade

This project will include the replacement of 41 traffic signal controllers and 41 software licenses. Specific deployment locations include:

- 21 intersections along the Capitol Corridor between Wilbur and Autumnvale
- 14 intersections along First Street between Jackson Avenue and Karina Court
- 6 intersections along the Guadalupe Corridor

The 53 remaining traffic signal controllers along other LRT corridors will be replaced as future grant or Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds become available.

Sidewalk Bicycle Racks

This project will install approximately 200 inverted-U bicycle racks on public sidewalks in areas of high demand, including commercial, retail and shopping districts. The geographic areas of focus for this project are Downtown San Jose, neighborhood business districts and transit corridors. Specific locations will be based on stakeholders' input, including the members of the public, City of San Jose Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee members, and bicycling advocacy organizations such as Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition. Staff will ensure that the installations are in compliance with the Bike Parking guidelines found in the VTA Bicycle Technical Guidelines, as well as the VTA Community Design & Transportation manual. Each rack will accommodate two bikes for a total of an additional 400 spaces to park bicycles citywide.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

For the acquisition of software and development services related to the ITS Capitol Light Rail Transit Signal Upgrade project, a request for proposals will be posted on the City's Internet Bid Line. Stakeholders such as VTA, Caltrans and the City of Sunnyvale (another user of the existing light rail signal controller) will be invited to participate in the vendor selection board.

The On-Street Bicycle Rack project and grant application was presented to San Jose's Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (SJ BPAC) at its public meeting. The SJ BPAC has reviewed and supported the grant application. The project was also coordinated with San Jose State University's Transportation Solutions Program, which will assist in identifying installation locations.

- Criteria 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criteria 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criteria 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

While this item is under the \$1 million threshold, this memorandum will be posted on the City's website for the November 21, 2006 Council Agenda.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney’s Office, the Department of Finance, and the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

Authorization of the City Manager to negotiate and execute the grant agreement will support the City’s initiative to “build a better transportation system” and support the Council-approved Budget Principle to leverage State and Local grant funds to implement regional transportation projects.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

Light Rail Traffic Signal Controller Project

The total cost of the project is \$885,000, of which \$600,000 will be funded by the reimbursable 2006-2007 TFCA Program Manager Grant Funds. The City’s local match portion of \$285,000 will be funded from the Traffic CIP. Of the City’s local match, \$60,000 has already been appropriated as part of the 2006-2007 Adopted Capital Budget. Additional funding of \$185,000 along with an increase to the estimate for earned revenue of \$300,000 is recommended in this memorandum to recognize the portion of the reimbursable grant anticipated to be received in 2006-2007. The remainder of the grant revenue of \$300,000 and project costs of \$340,000 is anticipated to occur in 2007-2008 and will be brought forward for Council consideration as part of the 2007-2008 Proposed Budget process.

Sidewalk Bicycle Racks

The total project cost for the Sidewalk Bicycle Racks is \$50,000, of which \$40,000 would be funded by the reimbursable 2006-2007 TFCA Program Manager Grant Funds. The remaining project cost of \$10,000 will serve as the City’s local match and will be fully funded from the Traffic CIP. Funding in the amount of \$50,000 for this project was approved as part of the 2006-2007 Adopted Capital Budget. An increase to the estimate for earned revenue of \$40,000 is recommended to recognize the reimbursable grant funding.

BUDGET REFERENCE

Fund #	Appn #	Appn. Name	FY06/07 Total Appn.	Total Amt. for Project	2006-2007 Adopted Capital Budget Page	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
Total Project Costs*				\$935,000		
Total Project Costs from Prior Years				\$150,00		

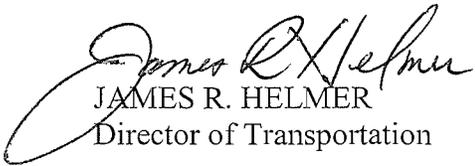
Current Funding Available						
465	4292	Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities	\$750,000	\$50,000	V-1092	N/A
429	5054	ITS: Capitol Light Rail Transit Signal Upgrade	\$210,000	\$210,000	V-1096	N/A
Total Current Funding Available			\$960,000	\$260,000		
Additional Funding Recommended						
429	5054	ITS: Capital Light Rail Transit Signal Upgrade	\$185,000	\$185,000		
Total Funding for Project Costs			\$1,145,000	\$595,000*		

* Additional funding in the amount of \$340,000 will be brought forward for Council consideration as part of the 2007-2008 Proposed Budget process.

CEQA

Light Rail Controller Upgrade project - Exempt, File No. PP06-178

On Street Bicycle Rack project - Exempt, File No. PP01-211



JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

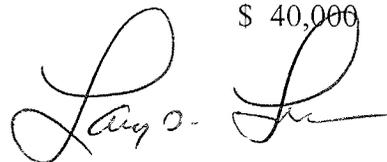


LARRY D. LISENBEE
Budget Director

For questions please contact Lily Lim-Tsao, Senior Engineer, at 975-3269.

I hereby certify that there will be available for appropriation in the designated fund and in the amounts listed below in Fiscal Year 2006-2007 moneys in excess of those heretofore appropriated there from:

Building and Structure Construction Tax Fund	\$300,000
Construction Excise Tax Fund	\$ 40,000



LARRY D. LISENBEE
Budget Director