



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: James R. Helmer

SUBJECT: VTA GRANT FOR
JULIAN/ST. JAMES COUPLET
CONVERSION PROJECT

DATE: 05-18-09

Approved

Date

5/22/09

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3

SNI AREA: Thirteenth Street

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the Funding Agreement with Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) in the amount of \$5,076,000 for the construction of the Julian/St. James Couplet Conversion Project.

OUTCOME

Enable the City to convert the Julian/St. James one-way couplet streets to two-way streets to improve community livability and to implement a priority project included in the Thirteenth Street Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) plan.

BACKGROUND

The Julian Street and St. James Street one-way couplets, in the Thirteenth Street Strong Neighborhoods Area, serve as citywide arterials bringing commuting traffic through the neighborhood. In 2002, the City Council approved the Downtown Access and Circulation Study that included recommendations to modify seven one-way couplet street corridors in an effort to improve community livability in neighborhoods surrounding Downtown San Jose. Conversion of the Julian/St. James couplet corridor in the area between 4th Street and 19th Street was subsequently identified as a top priority in the Thirteenth Street SNI plan.

The San Jose Redevelopment Agency (SJRA) has provided funding for the design of the Julian/St. James Couplet Conversion project. In 2008, the project was approved to receive grant funding from the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) for project construction in the amount of \$5,076,000 from their Local Streets and County Roads program. The grant requires a minimum 20% local funding match (\$1,269,000). At this time, an agreement has been prepared between the VTA and City in order to receive the VTA grant funds.

ANALYSIS

The construction phase of the project is estimated at \$6,818,590. The balance of \$1,742,590 will be funded by SJRA. This amount will also serve as the necessary local match. SJRA staff is currently processing the Project Services Memorandum (PSM) to transfer the \$1,742,590 to the Department of Transportation (DOT) and meet the grant matching fund requirements.

The Department of Transportation as the project owner will collaborate with the Department of Public Works to administer the construction of this project. The scope of work includes traffic signal modifications at eleven (11) intersections, along with other improvements including sidewalks, curbs, wheelchair ramps, drainage improvements, roadway striping, signage, pavement restoration, and replacement of seven (7) trees. Attached is a vicinity map of the project area.

The City will submit monthly invoices to VTA for eligible costs and expenses associated with the project. VTA agrees to make payments to City within forty-five (45) days of the date of each invoice. City is required to complete the project, submit all invoices, and close out the project on or before December 31, 2011.

The proposed implementation schedule for project includes awarding in summer of 2009 and completion in fall of 2011.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

Staff will report back to Council when the construction contract is proposed for award in the summer of 2009.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

- Criterion 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criterion 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)**
- Criterion 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)**

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

05-18-09

Subject: VTA Grant for Julian/St. James Couplet Conversion Project

Page 3

This memorandum will be posted on the City's website for the June 9, 2009 Council agenda.

COORDINATION

Preparation of this report was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, the City Manager's Budget Office, and the San José Redevelopment Agency.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

The recommended action aligns with the Transportation and Aviation Services CSA Outcome related to supporting community livability.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

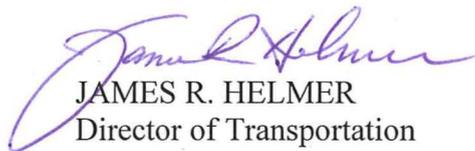
The recommendation in this report would initiate the City's acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$5,076,000. The grant funding and project is included in the 2010-2014 Proposed Capital Improvement Program.

BUDGET REFERENCE

Not applicable.

CEQA

Negative Declaration and addenda thereto, File No. PP02-05-115 and PP08-126.


JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

For questions please contact Rene Isaac Cordero, Local Project Delivery Manager, at 975-3235.

Attachment

