



DATE: February 23, 2016

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Community Development

TITLE: **Priority Development Area Planning Grant Acceptance – El Camino Real Streetscape Plan**

RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Funding Assigned to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Committing Any Necessary Matching Funds and Stating Assurance to Complete the Project (Attachment 1 to the Council Report).
2. Approve a midyear capital improvement project entitled “El Camino Real Streetscape Plan” and appropriate and transfer the following amounts to the project: \$47,000 from the Construction/Conveyance Tax Fund; \$40,000 from the Development Services Fund; and \$260,000 from the Priority Development Area Planning Grant. (Five votes required)
3. Reduce appropriations in the Community Development Department, Development Services Fund by \$40,000 for the El Camino Real Precise Plan Implementation Item included in the Adopted Budget. (Five votes required)

BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has directed Congestion Management Agencies, such as the VTA, to design Priority Development Area (PDA) planning programs to support growth in housing, employment, and transportation in PDAs. PDAs are City-identified areas of growth around key transit stations and corridors, and are a key part of the region’s growth planning. El Camino Real is one of Mountain View’s five PDAs.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) provided \$1.2 million in Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for qualifying PDA planning grant projects. The VTA has awarded grants in this round to Mountain View and San Jose, worth a total of approximately \$960,000. A City Council resolution of support is

necessary before the MTC will include the project in the regional transportation improvement program.

ANALYSIS

Mountain View has been awarded \$260,000 to prepare an El Camino Real Streetscape Plan. This funding will be used to hire urban design and transportation engineering consultants, who will use the recommendations in the El Camino Real Precise Plan to develop detailed streetscape improvement plans for the El Camino Real corridor.

The total anticipated cost to prepare the Plan is \$300,000. The remaining \$40,000 is the required local match. The City Council included these funds in the current budget, identified for El Camino Real Precise Plan implementation.

In addition to funds for preparing the plan, the CIP would need an additional \$47,000 to cover City administration of the CIP and internal project management and technical review costs. Staff recommends using the Construction/Conveyance Tax Fund for this amount.

This project is an El Camino Real Precise Plan implementation action. The Plan will develop new detailed designs for landscaping, lighting, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, and other improvements, and will be a key step in making El Camino Real more inviting and comfortable for all users and travel modes. Once completed, developers and the City will reference this information as new improvements are proposed, ensuring consistent and coordinated design along the corridor.

This Plan positions the City to take advantage of two regional projects in the pipeline. First, while the timing and alignment of El Camino Real's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project continues to be uncertain, an adopted streetscape plan could inform BRT-associated improvements if the project is built. Second, the VTA is preparing a "Pedestrian Access to Transit Plan," which will include pedestrian improvement recommendations for key transit corridors in the County, including El Camino Real. If these plans contain consistent improvements, they may be eligible for more funding sources.

Staff plans to begin this project in early 2017 and complete it by the end of 2018. The project scope tentatively includes rough cost estimates and an implementation plan to identify phasing opportunities and potential funding sources. Coordination with Caltrans, VTA, Los Altos, Sunnyvale, and Palo Alto will also be necessary. A final

project scope will be developed and returned to the City Council for approval in late 2016 or early 2017.

The estimated project cost includes:

Transportation Engineering and Urban Design	\$300,000
Project Management/Internal Technical Review	25,000
City Administration at 6.5%	<u>22,000</u>
 TOTAL	 <u>\$347,000</u>

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of the El Camino Real Streetscape Plan is \$347,000. Recommended funding sources include:

- \$260,000 from the 2017 Priority Development Area Planning Grant.
- \$40,000 that was included in the 2015-16 Community Development Department Development Services Fund, as a required local match for the grant.
- \$47,000 from the Construction/Conveyance Tax Fund, which as of December 31, 2016 had an available balance of \$7.3 million.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The City Council could not accept the grant and not approve the midyear capital improvement project. No streetscape plan would be developed.
2. Provide other direction.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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Attachment: 1. Resolution

Approved by:

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