



DATE: February 26, 2019

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Public Works

TITLE: **Approve Project for the 2017 Road Repair and Accountability Act (SB 1)**

RECOMMENDATION

Approve a Resolution Adopting a Project for Fiscal Year 2019-20 Funded by the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, to be read in title only, further reading waived (Attachment 1 to the Council report).

BACKGROUND

On April 28, 2017, the Governor signed Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), which is known as the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. To address basic road maintenance, rehabilitation, and critical safety needs on both State and local roads, this Act increases the per-gallon fuel excise tax, diesel fuel sales taxes, and vehicle registration fees; and provides for inflationary adjustments to tax rates in future years.

Beginning November 1, 2017, the State Controller (Controller) began depositing various portions of this new funding into the newly created Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA). A percentage of this new RMRA funding is then apportioned by a formula to eligible cities and counties pursuant to Streets and Highways Code Section 2032(h) for basic road maintenance, rehabilitation, and critical safety projects on the local streets and roads system.

In order to be eligible for RMRA funding, the statute requires cities and counties to provide basic annual RMRA project reporting to the California Transportation Commission (Commission). Prior to receiving an apportionment of RMRA funds from the Controller in the upcoming fiscal year, the City must submit to the Commission by May 1, 2019 a list of projects proposed for funding. The list of projects must be approved by the City Council and include a description and the location of each proposed project, a proposed schedule for the project's completion, and the estimated useful life of the improvement. The City must also report on Maintenance of Effort (MOE) compliance to document that the Road Repair and Accountability Act funds are

increasing the City's expenditure on road maintenance rather than supplanting City funds.

In Fiscal Year 2019-20, the Fiscal Year 2018-19 funds will be used on the City Council's previously approved list of streets for resurfacing and slurry seal.

ANALYSIS

The City expects to receive an allocation of \$1.1 million in Fiscal Year 2019-20 that can be used for pavement and curb maintenance in Fiscal Year 2020-21. RMRA supplements a number of funding sources used for roadway maintenance, including Gas Tax, Construction and Conveyance Tax, and Vehicle Registration Fees. Projects implemented with these sources include the annual pavement overlay and slurry seal projects, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) curb ramp replacements/installations, major pavement reconstruction projects on individual streets, sidewalk replacement and repair, and traffic signal system replacements and upgrades.

Staff recommends using the 2019-20 RMRA funds towards updating the ADA ramps and intersections along downtown Castro Street. In response to community input, staff recently field-checked the curb ramps along Castro Street from El Camino Real to Evelyn Avenue to determine if the ramps are ADA-compliant. ADA guidelines change over time, so ramps can fall out of compliance depending on how they are constructed and the nature of the changes to the guidelines. The City is not required to keep all ramps in compliance at all times but is expected to be making a reasonable effort to keep infrastructure in compliance.

All of the ramps on Castro Street are out of compliance with current ADA guidelines. Staff, therefore, recommends reconstructing the ramps to meet current guidelines. In many cases, meeting current standards for slope will require modifying the slopes of the roadway and sidewalks within each intersection.

If the recommended action is approved, the project will be included in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Capital Improvement Program with RMRA funds used for design of the improvements and reconstruction of as many intersections/ramps as possible. An accurate cost estimate will not be available until the extent of work at each intersection is identified in the design process.

FISCAL IMPACT

Estimated RMRA funds in the amount of \$1.1 million are expected to be apportioned during Fiscal Year 2019-20. The recommended action would identify these funds to be

used towards the design and reconstruction of curb ramps on Castro Street in Fiscal Year 2020-21. If additional funding is needed to replace all ramps, staff will return to Council with a funding strategy as part of the annual Capital Improvement Program review and approval process.

ALTERNATIVES

1. An alternative project for use of RMRA funds is to fund reconstruction of downtown intersections to remove cross-culverts.
2. Provide other direction to staff.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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Attachment: 1. Resolution