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DATE: March 18, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Development Services Department

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSNET SMART GROWTH INCENTIVE PROGRAM AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS THROUGH THE SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**SYNOPSIS**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City to submit applications for the TransNet Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP) for funding an Environmental Impact Report and Preliminary Design for the extension of the Coastal Rail Trail across the Loma Alta Creek; and the Active Transportation Grant Program (ATGP) for public education outreach through public service messages on North County Transit District buses; and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary grant documents.

**BACKGROUND**

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) has put out a call seeking competitive bids for SGIP and ATGP funds to pay for projects that promote smart growth, as well as increase walking, biking, and transit usage throughout the region. The goal is to implement its long-range plans to improve smart growth and active transportation. There is \$15 million in SGIP and ATGP funds available through the California Transportation Development Act and the TransNet half-cent sales tax program.

The funds will be apportioned to capital and non-capital projects as follows:

Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP):

- \$12 million total available
  - o \$9.6 million available for capital projects
  - o \$2.4 million available for planning projects

Active Transportation Grant Program (ATGP):

- \$3 million total available
  - o \$2.25 million for capital projects
  - o \$750,000 for non-capital

The goal of the SGIP is to encourage comprehensive public infrastructure projects and planning activities that facilitate compact, mixed use development focused around public transit, and that aim to increase housing and transportation choices. The goal of the ATGP is to encourage planning and development of Complete Streets; to provide multiple travel choices for the region's residents, and provide connectivity to transit, schools, retail centers, parks, work, and other community gathering places. ATGP is available to fund bicycle and pedestrian-oriented facility improvements, planning efforts, encouragement and education programs.

SANDAG requires a resolution from the City Council authorizing the application for the SGIP grant and ATGP grant funds, and naming the City Manager to submit the application and to sign and execute grant documents, agreements and assurances, if a grant award is made by SANDAG. The City is an eligible applicant for the grant program and the project mentioned below is eligible for funding.

## **ANALYSIS**

The City of Oceanside intends to apply for a total of \$430,000 in grant funds through the above programs. Anticipated grant application projects are as follows:

- **Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Preliminary Design** – \$340,000 in funding through the SGIP would be requested to prepare an EIR and Preliminary Design for the continuance of the Coastal Rail Trail from Oceanside Blvd. through the Loma Alta Creek to Morse Street. The City has previously funded and constructed the trail from the North County Transit Center south to Wisconsin Blvd. The trail was recently extended from Wisconsin Blvd. to Oceanside Blvd. by SANDAG. The EIR would assist in completing the trail to join the South Oceanside portion south of Buccaneer Beach filling the current gap and allowing a cyclist or pedestrian to travel from the transit center to Vista Way. Constructing the Oceanside Blvd portion to Morse Street would complete 95 percent of the Oceanside portion of Coastal Rail Trail. The SANDAG Coastal Rail Trail is part of a large network of bicycle facilities under construction throughout San Diego County, guided by Riding to 2050: The San Diego Regional Bike Plan.
- **Public Outreach Program** – \$90,000 in ATGP non-capital funding would be requested to public service messages AKA "Sign Wraps" on North County Transit (NCTD) buses to: 1) inform motorists about "Sharrows" and 2) the risk of bicyclists passing buses on the right side.
  - The City was first to use "Sharrows" in San Diego County by installing them on Pacific Street in 2010. Sharrows are lane markings that tell users that the lane is too narrow for bikes and vehicles to share side-by-side. On lanes marked by Sharrows, bikes should ride in the center of the travel lane to prevent motorists from attempting to pass them too close and also be out of the door zone of parked vehicles. Many motorists are unaware of the meaning of these lane markings.

- As part of the Oceanside Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee education program with NCTD bus drivers, the number one concern bus drivers expressed was the danger of bikes attempting to pass buses on the right side while the bus was moving right to pick up passengers.
- Funding would allow public service messages on 15 buses for six months. NCTD will provide one of the 15 buses at no cost. During the 6 month period, it estimated that the messages would reach 600,000 people per month.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The SGIP and ATGP through SANDAG do not require matching funds; however, providing a match provides for a more competitive application in obtaining the most points. Since matching funds are not required as part of the grant applications, it would be beneficial for the City to provide these funds. The City will commit \$70,000 in TransNet funds toward the EIR project and \$4,000 in budgeted operating funds toward the Outreach Program. The funding sources are as follows:

**EIR Project Grant:**

| <u>Amount</u> | <u>Funding Source</u> | <u>Purpose</u>        | <u>Note</u>     |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| \$340,000     | Grant Funds           | 85% EIR Project Costs | Grant Request   |
| \$60,000      | City TransNet Funds   | 15% EIR Project Costs | City Commitment |
| \$10,000      | City Transnet Funds   | CIP Admin Allocation  | City Commitment |

**Outreach Program:**

| <u>Amount</u> | <u>Funding Source</u>   | <u>Purpose</u>     | <u>Note</u>       |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| \$90,000      | Grant Funds             | 90% Outreach Costs | Grant Request     |
| \$4,000       | City Budgeted Operating | 4% Outreach Costs  | City Commitment   |
| \$6,000       | NCTD In-Kind            | 6% Outreach Costs  | NCTD Contribution |

**COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT**

Does not apply.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS**

The referenced documents have been reviewed by the City Attorney and approved as to form.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City to submit applications for the TransNet Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP) for funding an Environmental Impact Report and Preliminary Design for the extension of the Coastal Rail Trail across the Loma Alta Creek; and the TransNet Active Transportation Grant Program (ATGP) for public education outreach through public service messages on North County Transit District buses; and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary grant documents.

PREPARED BY:



\_\_\_\_\_  
David DiPierro  
City Traffic Engineer

SUBMITTED BY:



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Michelle Skaggs Lawrence  
Interim City Manager

REVIEWED BY:

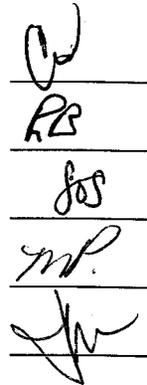
Peter A. Weiss, Assistant City Manager

Rick Brown, Interim Development Services Director

Scott O. Smith, City Engineer

Margery Pierce, Neighborhood Services Director

Jane McPherson, Interim Financial Services Director



Attachment: Resolution SIG and ATG Grant Program Agreement

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RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSNET SMART GROWTH INCENTIVE GRANT FUNDS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE COASTAL RAIL TRAIL ACROSS LOMA ALTA CREEK AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE BICYCLE SAFETY OUTREACH THROUGH MESSAGES ON NORTH COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT BUSES; AND ACCEPTING THE TERMS OF THE GRANT AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS, \$12.0 million of Transnet Smart Growth Incentive Program funds and \$3.0 million in Transnet Active Transportation Grant funds are available to local jurisdictions and the County of San Diego from Fiscal Year 2015-2016; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oceanside wishes to receive \$340,000 in Smart Growth funds for the following project: Environmental Impact Report for the continuance of the Coastal Rail Trail across Loma Alta Creek; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oceanside wishes to receive \$90,000 in Active Transportation Grant funds for the following projects: Public service bicycle safety outreach messages on North County Transit District buses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oceanside understands that the Smart Growth Incentive and Active Transportation Grant Program funding are fixed at the programmed amount; and therefore, project cost increases that exceed the grant awarded will be the sole responsibility of the grantee; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oceanside agrees to complete the proposed grant project within a timely matter and in compliance with Board Policy No. 035.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oceanside does resolve as follows:

Section 1. The City of Oceanside is authorized to submit an application to SANDAG for the Smart Growth Incentive Program funding in the amount of \$340,000 for an Environmental Impact Report for the continuance of the Coastal Rail Trail across Loma Alta Creek.

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1 Section 2. The City of Oceanside is authorized to submit an application to SANDAG for  
2 the Active Transportation Grant Program funding in the amount of \$90,000 public service  
3 bicycle safety outreach messages on North County Transit District buses; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if a grant award is made by SANDAG to fund the  
5 Environmental Impact Report Project, the City Council of the City of Oceanside commits to  
6 providing \$60,000 of matching funds and/or in-kind contributions and authorizes City of  
7 Oceanside staff to accept the grant funds, execute a grant agreement with SANDAG, with no  
8 exceptions, and complete the Environmental Impact Report Project; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if a grant award is made by SANDAG to fund the  
10 Public Service Bicycle Safety Outreach Messages, the City Council of the City of Oceanside  
11 commits to providing \$10,000 of matching funds and/or in-kind contributions and authorizes  
12 City of Oceanside staff to accept the grant funds, execute a grant agreement with SANDAG,  
13 with no exceptions, and complete the Public Service Bicycle Safety Outreach Messages Project.

14 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Oceanside, California,  
15 this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015, by the following vote:

16  
17 AYES:

18 NAYS:

19 ABSENT:

20 ABSTAIN:

21  
22 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE

23  
24 ATTEST:

25 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 City Clerk

28   
City Attorney