



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

GAIL FARBER, Director

March 19, 2013

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

28 March 19, 2013

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
GRANTS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1, 2, AND 4)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to adopt a resolution authorizing the Department of Public Works to apply to the California Department of Transportation for grant funding from the Transportation Planning Grant Programs. Public Works has identified two projects eligible for funding under the Environmental Justice Transportation Planning Grant Program and the Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Adopt the resolution directing the Director of Public Works or her designee to submit two applications for funding, one from the Environmental Justice Transportation Planning Grant Program and one from the Community Based Transportation Planning Grant Program.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or her designee to accept grant funding from the California Department of Transportation, Transportation Planning Grant Programs, and to execute any required grant agreements, and delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or her designee to act as the lead agent for the County of Los Angeles when conducting business with the involved government entities on all matters related to these grants subject to the review and approval by County Counsel and notification to the Board and the Chief Executive Office.

3. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or her designee to execute amendments to the original grant agreements provided that any such amendments provide for additional grant funding in an amount not to exceed an increase of 10 percent of the original grant award, improve efficiencies and/or clarity, are consistent with the related funding agreement and the scope of the funded project, approval of County Counsel or designee is obtained prior to any such amendment, and the Director of Public Works or her designee notifies the Board and Chief Executive Office of amendments in writing within 30 days after the execution of each amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to adopt the resolution allowing Public Works to apply for one grant from the Environmental Justice Transportation Planning Grant Program and one grant from the Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program, both of which are part of Caltrans' Transportation Planning Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2013-14.

If awarded the Environmental Justice Transportation Planning Grant, the grant funding will be used to conduct a Safe Routes to School Workshop/Walkability Audit project at schools where more than 75 percent of the students qualify for reduced or free lunch.

Once the schools have been identified, a consultant will be hired to hold workshops with parents, community groups, and enforcement agencies to discuss concerns, particularly walkability, and promote bicycle use safety awareness to and from school. The consultant will also conduct walkability audits with these stakeholders to identify possible pedestrian and bicyclist safety infrastructure improvements. The consultant will also evaluate bicycle usage in the area and identify possible safety improvements and methods to promote safety awareness.

As a result of this action, the consultant will provide Public Works with at least two conceptual plans for improvements in the neighborhood areas in the vicinity of each school. Public Works may then use these conceptual plans to improve the neighboring areas or use the plans to apply for Safe Routes to School grants in a future grant cycle.

If awarded the Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant, the grant funding will be used to establish community input for evaluating various options available for closing the bicycle and pedestrian gaps between the San Jose Creek and San Gabriel River bicycle trails. In 1998, Phase I of the San Jose Creek bike trail was constructed on the south side of the channel between Workman Mill Road and Seventh Avenue, improving bicycle and pedestrian access for the communities on the east side of the San Gabriel River. Phase II of the San Jose Creek Bike Trail project was to connect to the San Gabriel River Trail. Several possible alignments were explored in crossing the San Gabriel River ultimately resulting in a preferred alignment to cross the river using a bridge near the confluence of San Jose Creek. This alignment also provides an advantageous connection to the Woodland Duck Farm proposed on the northeast side of the confluence of the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek. The bike trail bridge over the San Gabriel River would connect to the Duck Farm and allow visitors and emergency vehicles to access the facility from the west side of the river.

A planning consultant will be hired to conduct community meetings and increase community involvement with the planning and preparation of conceptual plans. The consultant shall propose at least two conceptual alternatives in addition to the bike trail bridge alternative and one bike trail bridge alternative identifying project partners to assist with completion of the bridge.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 2), and Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3). Pedestrian and bicyclist safety infrastructure improvements will enhance the quality of life in the affected communities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

Grant funding of up to \$250,000 from the Caltrans' Environmental Justice Grant Program of the Transportation Planning Grant Programs will be used to fund contract services for development of the conceptual plans for improvements around the schools. Grant funds are limited to a 24-month period. The local match requirement is 10 percent of the awarded funds, which is equivalent to \$25,000. The First and Second Supervisorial Districts have each agreed to finance \$10,000 of the required local match while the Fourth Supervisorial District has agreed to finance \$5,000 of the required local match. Funding is included in the First, Second, and Fourth Supervisorial Districts' Road Construction Programs in the Recommended Fiscal Year 2013-14 Measure R Local Return Fund Budget.

Grant funding of up to \$300,000 from the Caltrans' Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program of the Transportation Planning Grant Programs will be used to fund contract services for development of conceptual plans for the bike trail connection. Grant funds are limited to a 24-month period. The local match requirement is 10 percent of the awarded funds, which is equivalent to \$30,000. Funding is included in the First Supervisorial District's Road Construction Program in the Recommended Fiscal Year 2013-14 Proposition C Local Return Fund Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Projects eligible for the Environmental Justice Grant Program of the Transportation Planning Grants Program promote the involvement of minority and low-income communities in the planning for transportation projects to prevent or mitigate disproportionate, negative impacts while improving mobility, access, safety, and opportunities for affordable housing and economic development. Safe Routes to School studies are eligible project types for the Environmental Justice Grant Program.

Projects eligible for the Community-Based Grant Program of the Transportation Planning Grants Program coordinate transportation and land-use planning projects that encourage community involvement and partnership. The projects must support livable and sustainable community concepts with a transportation or mobility objective and promote community identity and quality of life. Community planning and alternatives analysis for completing Phase II of the San Jose Creek bicycle trail fulfill these requirements and are eligible for the Community-Based Grant Program.

As part of the application for the Environmental Justice Grant Program and the Community- Based Grant Program of the Transportation Planning Grant Programs, Caltrans requires that the governing board of the local agency adopt a resolution identifying the title of the person authorized to enter into a contract with Caltrans on behalf of the applicant as part of the application.

The enclosed resolution has been reviewed and approved, as to form, by County Counsel.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

In accordance with Section 15378(b)(4) of the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines, the proposed actions do not constitute a project, and therefore, are not subject to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. The actions provide for the authorization to apply for and accept grants as a fiscal activity that do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in the potentially significant impact on the environment. An environmental review and the appropriate environmental document will be completed and submitted to the Board for adoption for any projects developed as a result of these actions.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Current programs and services will not be impacted by the development of the proposed Safe Routes to School Workshop/Walkability Audit project.

Current projects and services will not be impacted by the development of the proposed planning study connecting the San Jose Creek bicycle trail with the San Gabriel River bicycle trail.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter and one original signed resolution to the Department of Public Works, Programs Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,



GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:JTW:pr

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
County Counsel
Executive Office

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
AUTHORIZING TWO APPLICATIONS TO THE
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT PROGRAMS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14**

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (hereinafter Caltrans) is authorized to identify projects eligible to receive funding under the Transportation Planning Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2013-14; and

WHEREAS, Caltrans issued its Notice of Funding inviting applications for Fiscal Year 2013-14, for the Transportation Planning Grant Programs (hereinafter Planning Grants); and

WHEREAS, Caltrans regulations establish that Counties may apply for these funds; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (hereinafter Public Works) has identified one project eligible for funding under the Environmental Justice Grant Program of the Planning Grants (hereinafter Environmental Justice Program) and a second project eligible for funding under the Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program of the Planning Grants (hereinafter Community-Based Program); and

WHEREAS, Public Works has agreed to be the applicant on behalf of the County to seek the Planning Grants, to submit applications to Caltrans for receipt of an allocation of up to \$250,000 from the Environmental Justice Program and \$300,000 from the Community-Based Program, and thereafter administer projects undertaken through use of any grant funds received; and

WHEREAS, a Fund Transfer Agreement needs to be executed with Caltrans for each grant before such funds can be claimed through the Planning Grants; and

WHEREAS, Caltrans requires the applicant's governing body to certify by resolution: (1) the approval of proceeding with the applications; (2) the title of the person authorized to enter into the necessary agreements; and (3) that it has authorized execution of the Environmental Justice Program and Community-Based Program standard agreements, amendments, thereto and related program documents; and

WHEREAS, Public Works, through its Director or her designee, would enter into the above-referenced agreements with Caltrans for the Planning Grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles that:

1. The Board approves: (a) the filing of applications by Public Works with Caltrans for up to \$250,000 from the Environmental Justice Program and up to \$300,000 from the Community-Based Program, contingent upon grant funds being available; and (b) participation in the Planning Grants Program, consistent with constitutional and local law requirements and this resolution;
2. The Board certifies that the County has reviewed, understands, and to the extent consistent with all constitutional and local law requirements and this resolution agrees to the provisions contained in the application and program guidelines, documents, and agreements; and
3. The Board appoints and authorizes the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works' Director or her designee(s), and each of them as agent(s) of the County of Los Angeles, to conduct all negotiations, execute, and submit documents including, but not limited to the Environmental Justice Program and Community-Based Program standard agreements, applications, amendments, memoranda of understanding, payment request, and other necessary documents, which may be necessary for participation in said program and for completion of projects funded by said program, including any extensions or amendments of the aforementioned documents, subject to prior approval as to form by County Counsel.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the 19th day of March, 2013, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio of the governing body of all special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

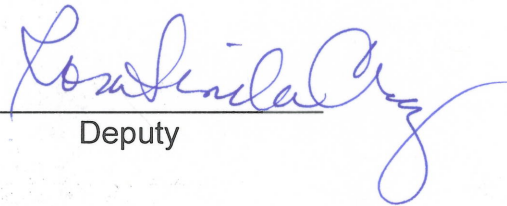


SACHI A. HAMAI
Executive Officer of the
Board of Supervisors of the
County of Los Angeles

By 
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN F. KRATTLI
County Counsel

By 
Deputy