

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: ROBERT M. SPRINKLE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR - TRAFFIC
ENGINEERING
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION
FOR THE BETTER UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE
DEVELOPMENT (BUILD) GRANT PROGRAM

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council, by motion, authorize the Director of Transportation and Public Works to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development, or BUILD, Transportation Discretionary Grant program for the Hearn Avenue Interchange construction project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BUILD is a federally managed grant program that replaces the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) grant program and provides funding on a competitive basis to public agencies that qualify under the program criteria. If awarded, the City of Santa Rosa is hoping to fund 80% of the \$24M (\$19.2M) Hearn Avenue Interchange construction project.

BACKGROUND

Since 2009, the TIGER program has provided a combined \$5.6 billion to 463 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

The BUILD program is very competitive and enables the US Department of Transportation to use a rigorous merit-based process to select projects with exceptional benefits, explore ways to deliver projects faster and save on construction costs, and make needed investments in our Nation's infrastructure.

The Hearn Avenue Interchange project is a vital part of the City's infrastructure and is in a primary commercial area. The interchange modifications would aid in the movement

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE BETTER
UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT (BUILD) GRANT
PROGRAM
PAGE 2 OF 3

of services, goods, and people using all modes of transportation, whether it is by bicycle, foot, or vehicle.

The interchange modification will provide a much-needed improvement to the existing undersized overcrossing while improving traffic circulation and enhancing pedestrian and bicycle access.

The City implemented a three-phase delivery schedule for the Hearn Avenue Interchange. All three phases are in the Measure M funding program. Two phases out of the three phases have been completed. Phase 1 is the completed construction on the east side of the interchange, which included the widening along Santa Rosa Avenue. Phase 2 is the completed construction on the west side of the interchange, which has been widened along Hearn Avenue. Phase 3 will be the future reconstruction of the Hearn Avenue interchange over US Highway 101.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On August 2005, the City and Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) entered into Cooperative Agreement No. M30806-05 approving the cooperative funding agreement for Measure M funds for Hearn Avenue Improvements Phase 1, 2, and 3.

On April 3, 2012, the City and Caltrans entered into Cooperative Agreement No. 04-2348 to develop the Project Initiation Document (PID). City Council approved this agreement by resolution No. 28069.

On February 25, 2014, the City and Caltrans entered into Cooperative Agreement No. 04-2492 to complete the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase. The City Council approved this agreement by resolution No. 28433.

On April 18, 2017, the City Council, by Resolution No. RES-2017-056, approved Cooperative Agreement No 04-2600 for Caltrans' Independent Quality Assurance during the preparation of the Project Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) phase.

On June 20, 2017, the City Council, by Motion, approved and authorized the Mayor to execute project work order #A010136-2016-02, for the Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) phase for the Hearn Avenue Interchange at US Highway 101, in the amount of \$3.5M with AECOM Incorporated.

ANALYSIS

Transportation and Public Works is preparing an application for the BUILD grant to be submitted by July 19, 2018.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE BETTER
UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT (BUILD) GRANT
PROGRAM
PAGE 3 OF 3

The City has already completed the environmental compliance process through both California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The City is currently in the process of working with Caltrans and a consultant to prepare the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates for the project. Those documents are scheduled to be completed in the winter of 2019.

The City needs a large funding source, such as the BUILD grant, in order to secure sufficient funding for a project of this magnitude. The City will leverage existing Measure M funding to aid in the completion of this vital project.

FISCAL IMPACT

The amount of grant to be requested will be \$19.2M for the construction of the Hearn Avenue Interchange project. The City will be responsible for \$4.8M of the construction, or 20% of the total estimated \$24.0M project. It is anticipated that Measure M funding will be used to fund the City portion of the project. No General Funds are planned to be used.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The project that this funding would contribute to has been reviewed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Caltrans is the lead agency for the Hearn Avenue Interchange project and the City of Santa Rosa is a responsible agency. In December 2016, Caltrans adopted a Negative Declaration in compliance with CEQA and adopted a Finding of No Significant Impact in compliance with NEPA.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This Hearn Avenue Interchange project has been previously presented to Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB), as an informational item during BPAB's regular meetings in 2015.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

CONTACT

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