



# REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR SUBMITTAL OF HOUSING INCENTIVE POOL PROGRAM FOR THE DOWNTOWN HOUSING/OPERATIONS ENHANCEMENTS – FIBER OPTICS UPGRADE GRANT

City Council Meeting  
July 7, 2020

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Transportation and Public Works

# Background

On October 23, 2019 MTC revision the framework to the Housing Incentive Pool Program which included a \$5 million set-aside for four North Bay counties. The set-aside is intended to help finance eligible infrastructure that will support affordable housing projects in Priority Development Areas (PDAs) and Transit Priority Areas (TPAs).

# Background

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission allotted up to \$400,000 to be available for agencies in Sonoma County to apply.

In May 2020, the SCTA approved the scope of the project with the City of Santa Rosa being the only agency to submit a letter of interest for the funding.

# Background

Projects funded with STP and CMAQ require a non-federal local match. The current local match requirement for STP and CMAQ projects is 11.47% of the total project cost, with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) providing up to 88.53% of the total project cost.

# Analysis

The project would install high speed fiber optic communications from the traffic management center to all downtown signals.

This allows for future Smart City technologies such as connect vehicles as more efficient movement of pedestrians, bicycles, goods and services.

This upgraded communication could provide the opportunity to work with private partners to deliver high speed internet to homes and businesses.

# Analysis

A total match for the grant would be \$45,880 from our existing Traffic Signal Interconnect account, JL 17269.

# Recommendation

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the City Council, by resolution: 1) authorize the filing of an application for federal Surface Transportation Program (STP)/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) One Bay Area Grant Program 2 (OBAG 2- Housing Incentive Pool Program (HIPP)) for the installation of high speed fiber to interconnect traffic signals in the downtown core providing an opportunity for private partnerships with internet providers for future use; 2) authorize the use of non-general funds (local utility impact fees and gas tax funds) to match the federal funds being requested; and 3) provide assurances that the City will complete the projects and appropriate federal funds into the projects.

# Questions