



REPORT to the MAYOR and MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL
From the CITY MANAGER

DATE: April 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a Grant Award from the Active Transportation Program (ATP) for the Regional Competition, for the La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project; and if Awarded Appropriating \$3,962,000 in Funds and Committing \$526,000 in Matching Funds

ISSUING DEPT: Public Works

SUMMARY:

Issues:

Should the City Council, authorize, the acceptance of a grant award from the Active Transportation Program "ATP" for the Regional Competition, for the La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project; and if awarded appropriating \$3,962,000 in funds; committing \$526,000 in matching funds; and appointing the City Manager, or designee, to execute all agreements and any amendments?

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution to authorize the acceptance of a grant award from the Active Transportation Program "ATP" for the Regional Competition, for the La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project; and if awarded appropriating \$3,962,000 in funds; committing \$526,000 in matching funds; and appointing the City Manager, or designee, to execute all agreements and any amendments.

Fiscal Impact:

The total estimated cost for the project is \$4,488,000. If awarded the City would accept \$3,962,000 in Active Transportation Program through the Regional Competition. Matching funds in the amount of \$526,000 would be allocated from the 2021 Regional Transportation Improvement Program "TransNet".

City's Strategic Goals:

- Effective and efficient traffic circulation and transportation
- Revitalize neighborhoods and corridors

BACKGROUND:

On September 26, 2013, the Governor signed legislation creating the ATP through Senate Bill

99, Chapter 359 and Assembly Bill 101, Chapter 354. The intent of the program was to encourage the use of active modes of transportation such as walking and bicycling.

The California Transportation Commission "CTC" announced the ATP Cycle 5 Call for Projects on March 25, 2020. Cycle 5 was expected to include Federal, State SB1 "RMRA" and State Highway Account funding. The funding/programming years included Fiscal Years 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25. The San Diego Association of Governments "SANDAG" announced a call for projects on June 25, 2020. Grant applications were due September 15th and September 30th, respectively. The application package for both statewide and regional programs was the same.

The current Active Transportation Program is a consolidated program of former federal and state transportation programs, including the Transportation Alternatives Program, Bicycle Transportation Account, and State Safe Routes to School "SR2S". The program is administered by the CTC and grant funding will be awarded in two stages. The Statewide Competition awards were announced by Caltrans in February 2021, and the Regional Competition awards were announced by SANDAG in March 2021.

The City of La Mesa's bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure has benefited from federal, state and regional grant programs on several occasions over the past decade. Most recently, construction was completed for the West La Mesa Pedestrian and Bike project, North Spring Street Pedestrian and Bike Phase I project, with University Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Project and North Spring Street Phase 2A and 2B projects having awarded construction contracts and started construction in 2020.

DISCUSSION:

On September 15, 2020, the City Council authorized the filing of the La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project (project) for the ATP Cycle 5 Call for Projects. Staff identified twenty-five individual bicycle and sidewalk projects for either Infrastructure (construction) or Non-Infrastructure (planning and community engagement) funding. The projects aligned with La Mesa's adopted Bicycle Facilities and Alternative Transportation Plan, Sidewalk Master Plan, Urban Trails Mobility Action Plan, and General Plan. Due to the complexity and time required to submit for the grant, staff submitted all twenty-five projects as one application (La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project).

The project also supported the implementation of the Vision Zero "VZ" Policy which was adopted by City Council on September 25, 2018. The projects proposed in the grant application were in line with four of the activities of the VZ Policy: 1) Prioritize Capital Improvement Projects and Maintenance; 2) Utilize Safe and Complete Streets Design Criteria; 3) Consider Collision Data in Grant Applications; and 4) Education and Engagement.

On April 8, 2021, staff received an announcement indicating that its project was recommended for partial funding through the Regional Competition administered by SANDAG. The City's project was one of 32 received as part of the competition for approximately \$16,000,000 in regional ATP funding. Following scoring and ranking by SANDAG evaluators, only two local

projects were selected for funding. The first was fully funded with the second, the City's project, being recommended for partial funding in the amount of \$3,962,000.

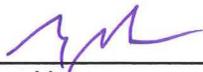
Since the project is being recommended for partial funding as opposed to the original request for full funding, the City would need to commit \$562,000 in matching funds. With modification of the City's Regional Transportation Improvement Program (2021 RTIP-TransNet) sufficient funds are available to commit to the project.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the funding commitment prior to the agenized item on SANDAG's Transportation Committee (April 16th) and Board of Directors (April 23rd) meetings, followed by the CTC meeting in June.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends the City Council adopt the attached resolution to authorize the acceptance of a grant award from the ATP for the Regional Competition, for the La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project and if awarded appropriating \$3,962,000 in funds; committing \$526,000 in matching funds; and appointing the City Manager, or designee, to execute all agreements and any amendments.

Reviewed by:



Greg Humora
City Manager

Respectfully submitted by:



Leon Firsh
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

Attachments:

A. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AWARD FROM THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) FOR THE REGIONAL COMPETITION, FOR THE LA MESA BIKE AND SIDEWALK CONNECTIONS PROJECT; AND IF AWARDED APPROPRIATING \$3,962,000 IN FUNDS AND COMMITTING \$526,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS

WHEREAS, \$440 million in federal and statewide funding is available to jurisdictions through the Active Transportation Program "ATP" for Fiscal Years 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25;

WHEREAS, the California Transportation Commission "CTC" announced the ATP Cycle 5 Call for Projects on March 25, 2020;

WHEREAS, the program is administered by the CTC and grant funding will be awarded in two stages, beginning with a Statewide Competition with awards announced in February 2021, followed by the Regional Competition with awards announced in March 2021;

WHEREAS, applications were submitted to the Statewide and Regional Competitions on September 15th and September 30th of 2020, respectively;

WHEREAS, the City of La Mesa requested to receive up to \$4,488,000 in grant funding from the Active Transportation Program for the completion of the La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project (project);

WHEREAS, the City of La Mesa certified it adopted the La Mesa Bicycle Facilities and Alternative Transportation Plan dated February 2012, the La Mesa Walkability Plan dated February 2006 and the La Mesa Freeway Crossing Plan dated December 2008;

WHEREAS, the City of La Mesa adopted a Climate Action Plan in March 2018, which established a goal to reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 53% and reduce vehicle miles traveled by 6% by 2035 through infrastructure improvements and other programs;

WHEREAS, the City of La Mesa adopted a Vision Zero Policy in September 2018, and the proposed project is in line with four of the activities of the policy;

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2021, the City of La Mesa project was recommended to receive \$3,962,000 in grant funding from the Regional Competition administered by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG);

WHEREAS, the grant funding is for a portion of the amount requested in the application and therefore the City of La Mesa will be required to provide the remaining funds in the amount of \$526,000 in order to be awarded the grant; and

WHEREAS, if the recommendation is approved by the SANDAG Transportation Committee and Board of Directors the recommendation will be submitted to the CTC for final approval and award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Mesa, California, that the City, if awarded the grant, accepts and appropriates the funds in the amount of \$3,962,000 for the La Mesa Bike and Sidewalk Connections Project, provided however, that if the actual revenue received from the source specified should be more or less than the amount set forth herein, that the appropriations shall be adjusted to equal the amount actually received;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED authorizes the City Manager to accept the grant funds, execute the grant agreement, any amendments and complete the project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED appropriates the grant funds to a new CIP Account (Fund 302) in the amount received for the project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED commits to providing \$526,000 in matching funds from the 2021 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TransNet); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED authorizes the City Manager or a designee to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of La Mesa, California, held the 13th day of April 2021, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATE OF CITY CLERK

I, MEGAN WIEGELMAN, CMC, City Clerk of the City of La Mesa, California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of Resolution No. 2021-___, duly passed and adopted by the City Council of said City on the date and by the vote therein recited.

MEGAN WIEGELMAN, CMC, City Clerk

(SEAL OF CITY)