

# Agenda Report

May 23, 2011

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Department of Public Works

**SUBJECT:** RESOLUTION APPROVING PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT AGREEMENT No. 085-N, TO ADMINISTERING AGENCY – STATE AGREEMENT No. 07-5064R, FOR THE EAST COLORADO BOULEVARD PEDESTRIAN ENHANCEMENTS, FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. CML-5064(067)

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find the project proposed herein to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") in accordance with Section 15301 (Class 1), subsection (c). This exemption includes minor alterations of existing public facilities (including streets) involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, and there are no environmental reviews;
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Program Supplement Agreement for the East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements; and
3. Adopt a resolution approving the Program Supplement Agreement to Administrating Agency – State Agreement No. 07-5064 between the City of Pasadena and the State of California, for State Reimbursement of costs for the East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements, Federal-Aid Project No. CML-5064(067).

## **BACKGROUND:**

The State of California, acting through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), administers federal transportation funds. These funds are paid to the City of Pasadena pursuant to the provisions of Administrating Agency–State Agreement No. 07-5064 (City of Pasadena Agreement No. 16,298) entered into by the parties on April 3, 1997. To obtain funds for a specific project it is necessary to execute a supplemental agreement for the project after it has been approved for funding by Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration.

In the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) 2007 Call for Projects, the LACMTA Board of Directors, at its meeting on September 27, 2007, authorized the programming of funds to the City of Pasadena for the East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements project. This project consists of the installation of pedestrian scaled decorative street lights on Colorado Boulevard from Catalina Avenue to Hill Avenue. The project is consistent with the East Colorado Boulevard Specific Plan, approved on May 12, 2003. The East Colorado Boulevard Specific Plan specifies that the decorative double lamp street light shall continue along Colorado Boulevard corridor to the east city limit. The proposed street light binds the continued stretch of the boulevard providing a distinctive look that identifies Colorado Boulevard as a historic east/west route. The addition of historic styled fixtures that include metal poles and double lamps will help further unify Colorado Boulevard, provide higher light levels to promote a safer feel, and greatly enhance the pedestrian experience along Colorado Boulevard. The City of Pasadena has obtained funding via a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program grant (CMAQ) in the amount of \$150,000, with a local match of \$37,000, for the preliminary engineering of the East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements. An additional \$724,000 in federal funding has been committed for construction of this project, with a local match of \$182,000.

On April 20, 2011, staff received the Program Supplement for the Preliminary Engineering of East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements. The Program Supplement Agreement has a sixty-day time frame from the approval date in which all executed documents, including a copy of the adopted resolution, must be received by the State, or the City will risk losing the funds. With the adoption of the resolution, the City can submit to the State the signed Program Supplement Agreement and continue to complete the project in a timely manner.

#### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This project supports the City Council Strategic Goal to improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure. This project is consistent with the Mobility Element Policy 4.2 by improving pedestrian environment. The project is also consistent with the Land Use Element Objective 19 by promoting the use of non-motorized modes of transportation, such as walking, in the City.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

##### **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review**

As Federal funds are being used for the proposed pedestrian improvements, the projects are subject to NEPA review. On June 23, 2011, this project was determined by the State for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), per Section 6004, NEPA compliance as a Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(2). On March 16, 2010, the City of Pasadena submitted a Preliminary Environmental Studies form for NEPA compliance to Caltrans Environmental for Section 106 and 4(f) determination.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Review

Prior to the NEPA review and compliance through the process stated above, this project is subject to CEQA review. This project qualifies for exemption under CEQA in accordance with Section 15301 Existing Facilities (Class 1), Subsection (c), and a Notice of Exemption (NOE) will be prepared and filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk by June 2011. This exemption includes the minor alteration of existing public facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Approval of Program Supplement Agreement No. 085-N, to Administrating Agency-State Agreement No. 07-5064, will enable the City to obtain Federal reimbursement of eligible costs in the amount of \$150,000. Adequate funds to cover the City's share of costs which total \$37,000 for both projects, in the form of Gas Tax, Commercial Development Fees, and a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Grant, are available in Capital Improvement Program Budget Account No. 73582.

Respectfully submitted,



JULIE A. GUTIERREZ  
Assistant City Manager/Acting Director  
Public Works

Prepared by:



Bonnie L. Hopkins  
Principal Engineer

Approved by:



MICHAEL J. BECK  
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF PASADENA APPROVING A PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT AGREEMENT  
TO ADMINISTERING AGENCY – STATE AGREEMENT FOR  
FEDERAL-AID PROJECTS APPROVING A REQUEST FOR  
FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE EAST COLORADO BOULEVARD  
PEDESTRIAN ENHANCEMENTS,  
FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. CML 5064(067)

WHEREAS, the City of Pasadena and the State of California, acting through the Department of Transportation, entered into Administering Agency – State Agreement No. 07-5064 on April 3, 2007 regarding Federal-Aid highway projects; and

WHEREAS, the East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements project [Federal-Aid Project Number CML-5064 (067)] is a supplemental project to this program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Pasadena that Program Supplement No. 085-N to Administering Agency – State Agreement No. 07-5064R between the City of Pasadena and the State of California, acting through the Department of Transportation, for the East Colorado Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancements project, is hereby approved, the City Manager is authorized and directed to execute same on behalf of the City, and the City Clerk is directed to attest her signature and affix the corporate seal of the City thereto.

Adopted at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the City Council on the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote:

AYES:

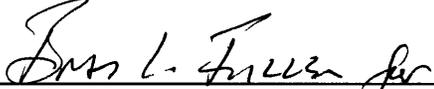
NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARK JOMSKY, CITY CLERK

Approved as to form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NICHOLAS GEORGE RODRIGUEZ  
Assistant City Attorney