

# Agenda Report

September 22, 2014

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THRU:** FINANCE COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Department of Transportation

**SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT AWARDED TO THE CITY OF PASADENA FOR THE SAFER STREETS PASADENA PROGRAM**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to receive Fiscal Year 2015 grant funding for the Safer Streets Pasadena Program in the amount of \$172,000;
2. Amend the Department of Transportation's Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget to recognize and appropriate \$172,000 in grant funds awarded by OTS for the Safer Streets Pasadena Program as detailed in the Fiscal Impact section of this report; and
3. Find that acceptance of this grant is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Section 15061 (b) (3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City applied for funds through the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) in February 2014 for the Safer Streets Pasadena Program. As a result of this application, the City was awarded \$172,000 in OTS Grant Funds for this proposed program for the period of October 1, 2014 through November 30, 2015. This grant is part of the California Traffic Safety Program and was made possible through the support of OTS and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The Safer Streets Pasadena Program is comprised of two components, an education and outreach campaign focused on bicycle safety and an engineering component to enhance the collision data record system. The education and outreach component of

this program includes the development of a bicycle safety campaign and the procurement and distribution of safety equipment. The safety equipment includes bicycle helmets, bicycle headlights, taillights and other reflective materials.

The engineering services portion of this program includes an upgrade to the City's collision database system, to allow for better analysis of collision data utilizing traffic volumes, facility type and type of control as factors in the evaluation. Top ranked collision locations will be reviewed for short term and long term potential enhancements.

This program is currently scheduled for implementation in FY 2015, with completion in FY 2016.

### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The Improvement of Traffic Safety in the City of Pasadena supports the General Plan guiding principle, "Pasadena will be a city where people can circulate without a car." The Safer Streets Pasadena Program will directly assist the Department of Transportation in implementing the following objectives of the Mobility Element:

- Promote a livable community
- Encourage non-auto travel
- Manage multimodal corridors to promote and improve citywide transportation services

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

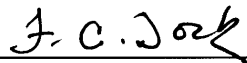
The City's Environmental Administrator has determined the program is categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines in Section 15061 (b) (3), the General Rule. The proposed action is to develop an outreach campaign and upgrade the collision database software. The activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA only applies to programs that have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. A Notice of Exemption for the program will be filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk before the end of this month, as required. In addition, there are no changed circumstances or new information which would require further environmental review.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**


This OTS grant award is a non-matching grant and will have minimal to no financial impact to the City. There are no anticipated on-going staff costs after the program completion. However, to address the high ranked collision locations identified in this program, potential traffic safety improvement projects may be identified and recommended for funding as part of the Capital Improvement Program budgeting process. The grant award of \$172,000 will be reflected in the revenue account 6497-101-793100-95082 and will be appropriated in the expenditure account 8114-101-773100-95082, Other Contract Services. The funding of \$172,000 will be sufficient to support contractual services for the Safer Streets Pasadena Program. However, funds

provided by this OTS grant are for contractual services only. City staffing costs to manage this program are minimal and will be absorbed within the Department of Transportation's operating budget. It is anticipated that the entire grant award amount of \$172,000 will be expended by the end of FY 2016 when the program is complete.

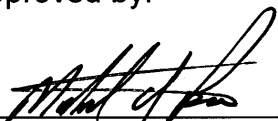
Respectfully submitted,

  
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