

Agenda Report

August 8, 2016

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Finance Committee

FROM: Department of Transportation

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

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that acceptance of this grant is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Section 15061 (b) (3) of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to receive FY 2017 grant funding for the Safer Streets Pasadena – School Area Safety Program in the amount of \$145,000 and any subsequent agreements regarding this grant award; and
3. Amend the Department of Transportation's FY 2017 Operating Budget to recognize and appropriate \$145,000 in grant funds awarded by OTS for the Safer Streets Pasadena – School Area Safety Program as detailed in the Fiscal Impact section of this report.

BACKGROUND:

The City applied for funds through the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) in February 2016 for the Safer Streets Pasadena – School Area Safety Program. As a result of this application, the City was awarded \$145,000 in OTS Grant Funds for this proposed program for the period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. 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 - School Area Safety Program combines education and outreach. Activities include the expansion of the "We Make Time" pedestrian safety campaign that was developed in 2014 by the City of Pasadena. The campaign will use classroom level pedestrian safety outreach to 3rd grade students while also addressing parents and motorists who drive through school zones. In addition, the city will update the Suggested Routes to School Maps for each of the 18 elementary and middle schools in Pasadena and survey students to determine what routes they take to school and what factors contribute to their decision whether or not to walk to school.

This program is currently scheduled for implementation in FY 2017, with completion in FY 2018.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The Safer Streets Pasadena - School Area Safety Program supports the General Plan guiding principle that Pasadena will be a city where people can circulate without cars. The Safer Streets Pasadena – School Area Safety Program will directly assist the Department of Transportation in implementing the following objectives of the Mobility Element:

- Enhance Livability
- Encourage walking, biking and other alternatives to motor vehicles.

Specifically, this project addresses three policies of the Mobility Element:

Policy 1.21 Inform and involve neighborhood residents in transportation programs such as the Suggested Safe Routes to School Program to help ensure that students can safely walk or bicycle to and from school

Policy 2.7 Support neighborhood walk-to-school efforts

Policy 2.12 Continue to develop specialized educational campaigns and informational materials to improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.

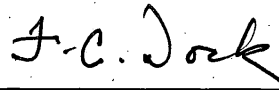
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

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 implement an education and outreach campaign. 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. The grant award of \$145,000 will be reflected in the revenue account 10124003-649700-95084 and will be appropriated in the expenditure account 10124003-811400-95084, Other Contract Services. The funding of \$145,000 will be sufficient to support contractual services for the Safer Streets Pasadena – School Area Safety 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 \$145,000 will be expended by the end of FY 2018 when the program is complete.

Respectfully submitted,



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