



# Agenda Report

June 10, 2024

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Department of Transportation

**SUBJECT:** **AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY SAFETY ADMINISTRATION TO ACCEPT SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) ACTION PLAN GRANT IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$759,200**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3); the Common Sense Exemption that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Action Plan grant in the amount not to exceed \$759,200 and execute any subsequent agreements regarding the grant award.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In April 2023, the US Department of Transportation issued a notice of funding opportunity for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program with up to \$1.177 billion available for local, regional, and tribal agencies to enhance roadway safety. The SS4A grant program is divided into two distinct grant opportunities, Action Plan grants and Implementation grants. Action Plan grants are intended for agencies to develop a holistic, well-defined strategy to advance active transportation and prevent

roadway fatalities and serious injuries, while Implementation grants are intended to fund projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan.

The Department of Transportation applied for and was awarded an Action Plan grant to develop a Citywide Active Transportation Plan. The award is for \$759,200 and requires a \$189,800 local match. Funds must be expended within three years of the contract award. The Pasadena Citywide Active Transportation Plan will update and integrate the City's 2015 Bicycle Transportation Action Plan, 2006 Pedestrian Plan, 2024 Pedestrian Transportation Action Plan, and Safe Routes to School planning work to create a comprehensive Action Plan for safe and accessible walking, biking, and rolling in the City. The community-driven plan will focus on four key areas: education, infrastructure improvements, consistency with the Mobility Element and incorporating the latest best practices in active transportation. A key focus will be ensuring that equity is at the forefront of projects and advancing strategies aimed at reducing fatalities and serious injuries related to traffic collisions.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The Action Plan grant supports the General Plan guiding principle that Pasadena will be a city where people can circulate without cars. This proposed action is consistent with General Plan Mobility Element policies to enhance livability, and encourage walking, biking, transit, and other alternatives to motor vehicles. This program is also consistent with the City's goals to improve, maintain, and enhance public facilities and infrastructure and to improve mobility and accessibility in the City.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The proposed action is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3), Common Sense Exemption, that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Approval of the recommended action will result in a total grant award of \$759,200 over three years. Of this amount, \$253,000 is anticipated to be spent in FY25, with the grant revenues and expenses included in the Department of Transportation's FY 2025 Recommended Budget for City Council adoption. The Department will budget future grant revenue and expenses during the annual operating budget cycle, and the Department will budget future appropriations for the grant match requirement during the annual operating budget cycle.

Respectfully submitted,



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