

# Agenda Report

**TO:** City Council

**DATE:** September 14, 1998

**FROM:** City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Cooperative Agreements with County of Los Angeles to assign \$89,000 of City's Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds to the County to be used for the design, administration and construction of traffic signals at the intersection of New York Drive and Eaton Canyon Drive.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt a resolution (Attachment A) authorizing and approving the assignment of \$89,000 of the City's STP funds to the County as credit towards the City's financial share of the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of New York Drive and Eaton Canyon Drive;
2. Authorize the Acting City Manager to execute, on behalf of the City, any required documents to effectuate this assignment of funds and the installation of the subject traffic signal;
3. Certify the project to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301 (c) of the State CEQA Guidelines and authorize the Acting City Manager to execute and the City Clerk to file a Notice of exemption for the project with the County of Los Angeles; and
4. Adopt a resolution (Attachment B) consenting to the establishment of the portion of New York Drive at the intersection of Eaton Canyon Drive as a part of the County System of Highways for the purpose of street improvements only and find that this is not a County of Los Angeles acquisition of property within the ambit of Government Code, Section 65402(b).

**BACKGROUND:**

In 1997 the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works prepared a traffic engineering investigation report recommending a traffic signal at the intersection of New York Drive and Eaton Canyon Drive. The northeast portion of this intersection is in an unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County.

Eaton Canyon Drive is a collector street that funnels residential traffic from areas within the City and County onto New York Drive. It also serves as access to the Pasadena Civil Defense site. Traffic to and from these locations must enter and exit on a curved portion of New York Drive where the report showed the prevailing speed to be in excess of 50 miles per hour. The proposed signal meets required warrants and will provide safer and easier access for the motorists using this busy intersection.

The Adopted FY 1997 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) included an unfunded project to install traffic signals at this intersection. The FY 1999 CIP budget authorized the expenditure of \$89,000 in STP funds towards this project, with the remainder of the project cost to be paid by the County.

Since portions of this intersection are in the County of Los Angeles as well as the City of Pasadena; the County has agreed to design and administer the project with the City paying its share of the cost with Federal STP funds. Federal STP funds must be obligated within a three year period from the time they are assigned by the MTA or they revert back to the MTA. Since this particular project will not be ready in time for the actual expenditure of the STP funds within the three year period; the City will obligate the funds by assigning them to the County as credit towards the project.

Following assignment of the City's STP funds, the County of Los Angeles will prepare an agreement regarding a cooperative project to install new traffic signals at the intersection of New York Drive and Eaton Canyon Drive. Attachment B is in anticipation of this agreement. As part of the agreement and in accordance with Sections 1700 and 1850 of the Streets and Highways Code, the City will temporarily establish this portion of New York Drive as a part of the County System of Highways for the purpose of installing the traffic signals. Since the County is not acquiring any interest in property, Government Code Section 65402 requires the Council to find that the action taken is not a County acquisition of City property.

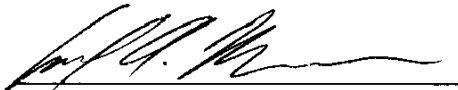
**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost for providing the recommended actions is available in Budget Account 75715 (Install Traffic Signals - New York Dr. and Eaton Canyon Dr.) as approved in the FY 1999 CIP.


Respectfully submitted,

  
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ  
Acting City Manager


Prepared by:

  
CARL A. MARSEE  
Principal Engineer

Reviewed by:

  
BRENDA E. HARVEY-WILLIAMS  
Finance and Management Services Administrator

Approved by:

  
JACK A. LIDYARD, Acting Director  
Public Works and Transportation