



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
May 26, 2015

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager

Submitted by: Andrew Clough, Director, Public Works

Subject: Funding and Cooperative Agreement: BART for Downtown Berkeley Bike Station

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a 2-year contract with BART for continued operation of the Downtown Berkeley Bike Station, for \$60,000 annually, for a total not to exceed \$120,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The City is committing \$60,000 annually for 2 years, for a total not to exceed \$120,000. Funding is available in the FY 2015 budget in the Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 610) and funding is subject to appropriation in the FY 2016 budget in the Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 610).

This agreement has been entered in the contract database with CMS No. YJ1KG.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Downtown Berkeley Bike Station has been in continuous operation since 1999, originally on the concourse level of the Downtown Berkeley BART station, and in its current storefront location under contract with BART since 2010. According to BART, the Bike Station parks 175 bikes on an average weekday, or about 3,800 securely parked bikes every month. BART and the City of Berkeley calculate that approximately 180,000 bikes have been parked at the facility since its opening.

The Bike Station is now located in a storefront at 2208 Shattuck Avenue, under lease between BART and HSR Berkeley Investments, LLC, representing the property owner. This Bike Station location is under the same ownership as the Shattuck Hotel, represented by Hill Street Berkeley Investments, LLC in the development of the Berkeley Plaza project at 2211 Harold Way.

The property manager and BART have not been successful in negotiating renewal of a long-term lease at or near the current lease rate. At this time these parties have agreed to two 1-year extensions to the current lease agreement, for continued occupancy through June 30, 2016. BART and the City's long-term plan is to relocate the Bike

Station to the reconstructed Center Street Garage. The initial designs for the garage include a dedicated space for the Bike Station on the first floor with access via a street level retail space on Center Street, similar to the current Bike Station location. During this 2-year extension BART and the property manager have agreed to explore options for continued renewal of the lease, at least until the Bike Station can be relocated.

Provision of secure Bike Parking in the Downtown Berkeley Bike Station supports multiple policies in the Berkeley Bicycle Plan; Berkeley Climate Action Plan Transportation Goal #2: Increase Cycling; Berkeley General Plan Policy T-43 which calls for expansion of the supply of secure bicycle parking near transit hubs and in commercial areas; and the following specific Downtown Area Plan Policy measures:

Policy AC-5.2: Bicycle Parking. Increase the availability of convenient, secure and attractive short- and long-term bicycle parking throughout Downtown.

a) Increase the availability of secured bicycle parking throughout Downtown, particularly in areas of high use, including bicycle parking options that are sheltered and/or attended.

d) Promote the creation of an at-grade attended or automated bicycle-parking service. Work with BART to consider replacing the existing bicycle station with a joint City/BART aboveground facility, perhaps in a storefront on Shattuck Avenue.

BACKGROUND

The Downtown Berkeley Bike Station has been in continuous operation for 16 years, since 1999 on the concourse level of the Downtown Berkeley BART station, and in its current street-level storefront location under contract with BART since 2010. The current Bike Station was designed and constructed by BART and the City, funded in part by a Safe Routes to Transit Grant (SR2T) of \$573,784 awarded to the City.

The Berkeley Bike Station is the most successful attended bicycle parking facility in the United States. While located on the concourse level of the Downtown Berkeley BART Station, the Station was built to accommodate 77 bicycles and regularly parked 100 bicycles per day. The original Bike Station opened in 1999 and reached capacity within a year of its opening. The relocated Bike Station, located in a 4,000 SF street-level storefront, opened in June 2010 and offers an attended valet-parking area capacity of 155 bikes, and an unattended membership area capacity of 113 bikes for a total of 268 bike parking spaces. Despite this greatly expanded facility, the free valet-parking area is routinely filled to capacity during busy months by 11:00 a.m. on most days.

Enlarging the Bike Station in 2010 also created space for additional services such as retail sales, repairs and bicycle rentals. These services, provided by BART's Downtown Berkeley Bike Station operator, Alameda Bicycle, generate revenue that has helped defray annual operating costs in the form of profit-sharing with both BART and the City. Berkeley's profit-sharing funds from the current 5-year contract have been reinvested in

the Bike Station, for example to retrofit existing light fixtures to allow for the use of more energy-efficient bulbs and to increase bicycle parking capacity in the valet parking area.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

According to BART, the Bike Station parks approximately 3,800 securely parked bikes every month, or about 180,000 bikes parked at the facility since opening. Each of these diverted trips reduces greenhouse gases from the more polluting modes of transportation that would have been chosen had secure bike parking not been available. Provision of secure Bike Parking in the Downtown Berkeley Bike Station is an implementation measure of Berkeley Climate Action Plan Transportation Goal #2: Increase Cycling.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Bike Station project is of national repute, and an important asset to downtown Berkeley to encourage cycling and reduce congestion and emissions related to use of private vehicles. In addition, despite the City's aggressive and successful expansion of on-street bicycle parking, there continues to be a shortage of adequate bicycle parking in the area, especially secure, long-term bicycle parking of the type offered at this facility.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

In the short-term the City could choose not to amend the current contract with BART. As a result BART would need to either take on the City's \$120,000 portion of Bike Station operating costs or close the Bike Station. In the long-term the City and BART have several possible alternative actions, including renewing the lease at/near the current rate or at a higher market rate; relocating the bike station to another location, such as the BART station or Center Street garage; or permanently closing the station.

CONTACT PERSON

Farid Javandel, Transportation Manager, Public Works, 981-7061
Eric Anderson, Associate Planner, Public Works, 981-7062

Attachments:
1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

FUNDING AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT: BART FOR DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
BIKE STATION

WHEREAS, in December 2008 Council approved a 5-year contract with BART for \$60,000 annually for a sum not to exceed \$300,000 to provide operations funding for a Downtown Berkeley Bike Station Expansion through June 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Bike Station parks approximately 175 bikes on an average weekday, equaling about 3,800 securely parked bikes every month, and approximately 180,000 bikes parked at the facility since opening; and

WHEREAS, provision of secure Bike Parking in the Downtown Berkeley Bike Station supports multiple policies in the Berkeley Bicycle Plan; Berkeley Climate Action Plan Transportation Goal #2: Increase Cycling; Berkeley General Plan Policy T-43 that calls for expansion of the supply of secure bicycle parking near transit hubs and in commercial areas; and the multiple Downtown Area Plan transportation policy measures; and

WHEREAS, this Bike Station contract between BART and City of Berkeley will provide funding for an additional 2 years of operation in order to continue secure bike parking services in Downtown Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, funding of \$60,000 is available in the FY 2015 budget in the Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 610); and funding of \$60,000 is subject to appropriation in the FY 2016 budget in the Capital Improvement Fund; CMS No. YJ1KG.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to enter into a 2-year contract with BART for \$60,000 annually for a sum not to exceed \$120,000 to provide operations funding for the Downtown Berkeley Bike Station.