



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 24, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Phillip L. Harrington, Director, Department of Public Works

Subject: Grant Application: Active Transportation Program Funding for the Milvia Bikeway Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the California Department of Transportation Active Transportation Program for the remaining unfunded phases of the Milvia Bikeway Project, for a total amount up to \$6,470,650, and, if awarded, to accept the grant and execute any resultant agreements and amendments.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

If awarded, this California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Active Transportation Program (ATP) application would bring up to \$6,470,650 of competitive grant revenue to the Caltrans Grant Fund (674). Of the total project cost, \$838,350, which represents City matching funds, will be subject to appropriation incrementally from the Measure B Bike and Pedestrian Fund (392) and the Measure BB Bike and Pedestrian Fund (407) beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. While not required for ATP grants, matching funds improves the competitiveness of the application by leveraging local resources.

The breakdown of total expected project cost and grant/local contribution is shown in the table below:

Phase	Expected Cost	ATP Share	Local Match
Detailed Design	\$ 664,000	\$ 587,835	\$ 76,165
Construction	\$6,645,000	\$5,882,815	\$762,185
Total	\$7,309,000	\$6,470,650	\$838,350

If awarded, the grant funds must be fully expended within three years of the fiscal year of award, which is by the end of FY 2023.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Milvia Bikeway Project (Project) is a proposed upgrade to the existing Bicycle Boulevard on Milvia Street between Hearst Avenue and Blake Street. The Project will provide a Class IV protected bikeway, with separation from motor traffic by way of a vertical element. The Project will include intersection treatments and traffic calming features to accommodate both bicyclists and pedestrians.

On July 19, 2016, Council authorized the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) for funding consideration under the Alameda CTC FY 2018 – 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan for all phases of the Project. The City was awarded \$350,000 for the preliminary engineering and environmental planning Phase in spring 2017. Council authorized the City Manager to accept the awarded grant funding June 27, 2017. This left the detailed design and construction phases unfunded.

The City began the preliminary engineering and environmental planning phase in spring 2018, and the work is expected to be completed in fall 2019. At the conclusion of this phase, the ATP grant funding, if authorized by Council for application submission and award acceptance, will become available and allow staff to directly progress into detailed design, preventing delay to Project delivery due to insufficient funding.

BACKGROUND

Annual bicycle counts have demonstrated a significant rise in bicycle activity in Downtown Berkeley (Downtown), particularly along Milvia, yet the number of bicycle-related collisions is also greatest in Downtown compared to the rest of the City. According to analysis completed for the City Bicycle Plan 2017, Milvia had the highest number of total collisions between 2001 and 2012, which suggests design changes should be evaluated to accommodate the mix of roadway users along this Downtown Bicycle Boulevard.

In recent years, a number of City plans and policies have highlighted the stretch of Milvia in Downtown as a high-priority area for bicycle facility improvements. The Strategic Plan (2018), Bicycle Plan (2017), and Strategic Transportation Plan (2016) recommend replacing the existing segments of Class III bicycle shared-roadway markings and Class II bicycle lanes on Milvia between Hearst and Blake with a Class IV protected bikeway (also known as a cycle track). Similarly, the Streets and Open Space Improvement Plan (2012) and Downtown Area Plan (2012) recommend establishing a continuous bicycle lane and traffic calming on Milvia through Downtown. All these initiatives went through a robust stakeholder engagement process and have garnered strong support from the community.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Project in this grant application is designed to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety and convenience, and thus increase the number of Berkeley residents and

visitors walking and biking. Increasing cycling and walking would help the City achieve the Berkeley Climate Action Plan greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of 33% below year 2000 levels by the year 2020, and 80% below year 2000 levels by 2050. The Climate Action Plan states that, in order to meet these targets, "Transportation modes such as public transit, walking and bicycling must become the primary means of fulfilling our mobility needs."

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

ATP funding will help the City to improve bicycling safety and access on the City's busiest Bicycle Boulevard. Not approving the application would mean foregoing \$6,470,650 in potential grant funding.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could choose not to apply for these funds. However, no alternative fund sources have been identified to complete the Project.

CONTACT PERSON

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Beth Thomas, Principal Planner, Public Works (510) 981-7068

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution

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

GRANT APPLICATION: ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FUNDS FOR
MILVIA BIKEWAY PROJECT

WHEREAS, Milvia Street between Hearst Avenue and Blake Street is a high-priority location for bikeway improvements, as recognized in the Berkeley Strategic Plan (2018), Bicycle Plan (2017), Strategic Transportation Plan (2016), Downtown Area Plan (2012), and Streets and Open Space Improvement Plan (2012); and

WHEREAS, Berkeley City Council in 2016 authorized the City Manager to apply for grant funding from the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan for all phases of the Milvia Bikeway Project (Project); and

WHEREAS, Alameda CTC awarded grant funding for the first phase of the Project, which Berkeley City Council in 2017 authorized the City Manager to accept, leaving the Project's final two phases of detailed design and construction unfunded; and

WHEREAS, the Caltrans Active Transportation Program funds can be used to complete the final two phases and allow for the installation of bicycle and pedestrian facility improvements to the outdated facilities along Milvia Street from Hearst Avenue to Blake Street; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the grant funds will be deposited in a revenue account in the Caltrans Grant Fund (674), and the City will provide matching funds up to the amount of \$838,350, which will be subject to appropriation from the Measure B Bike and Pedestrian Fund (392) and Measure BB Bike and Pedestrian Fund (407) beginning in FY 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to submit a grant application to the Caltrans Active Transportation Program for the Milvia Bikeway Project up to the amount of \$6,470,650, and accept the grant funds if awarded, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments. A record copy of any executed agreement will be on file with the City Clerk.