

COUNCIL

Agenda # _____

MEETING OF December 9, 2003



STAFF REPORT

Authorizing the Filing of an Application for a Request to Extend the Bicycle Transportation Account Funds (BTA) with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the US Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project, City Contract No. 433, in the amount of \$585,000

December 9, 2003

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

Summary

The City of Belmont submitted a grant application for the Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) funding on June 1, 2001. This application was evaluated by the Caltrans District Local Assistance Engineer and the Caltrans Bicycle Facilities Unit (BFU). The BFU recommended funding to include the proposed project from the City of Belmont and granted an amount of \$585,000. In order to remain eligible for this grant fund, the City of Belmont must adopt a resolution authorizing the submittal of the application for a request to extend the BTA funds. Once adopted, the approved resolution will be forwarded to the appropriate grant program for final evaluation.

Background and Discussion

The City of Belmont submitted a grant application on June 1, 2001 to Caltrans for funding for the US Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project, described as follows:

The Draft San Mateo County Comprehensive Bicycle Route Plan lists Belmont's planned bicycle bridges over El Camino Real and US 101 as the third highest priority in the County. The El Camino Real Bridge will be located at the Caltrain Station, and the US 101 bridge will be located at the Redwood Shores office park, where there are existing bicycle/pedestrian paths, with more currently under construction. Bicycle and pedestrian paths will connect Downtown Belmont, the Caltrain Station, Nesbit Elementary School, the Sports Complex, the Redwood Shores office park and the Bay Trail.

The bicycle project proposed here is the construction of the bicycle and pedestrian bridge over US Highway 101. The project is described as follows:

- 1) Construct a bicycle and pedestrian bridge to clear span US Highway 101, supported by piers within the State right-of-way, and
- 2) Construct approach ramps from the ground to the bridge, connecting the bridge to Hiller Street on the west and to the Belmont Sports Complex trails on the east.

City Council is being asked to agree by resolution to authorize the submittal of the application to request the BTA funding be extended. If the City Council agrees to adopt the resolution, staff will submit the application to Caltrans Bicycle Facilities Unit. Without a resolution, Caltrans will not consider the application and will redistribute the funds to other projects. However, even with the resolution, the Department of Finance (DOF) has the authority to approve/deny the application after a review of the city's justification and will response no later than June 2004. If the City chooses not to proceed with the application or is denied an extension, the City must approve money to be used to complete the project.

The BTA program is a competitive program that can be used to fund bicycle and pedestrian programs or projects. As part of the ongoing application process, it is required that the City of Belmont now formally adopt a resolution authorizing the submittal of the application to the specified grant program. The resolution must specifically cite that the City of Belmont has authorized the submittal of this application to the specified grant program. The resolution must also specifically cite the amount of grant funds requested. The following is a list of the proposed projects and the amount of grant funds sought by the City of Belmont:

<u>BTA Program</u>	<u>Total Project Cost</u>	<u>Requested Funds</u>
US Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge	<u>\$3,885,000</u>	<u>\$585,000</u>
TOTALS:	\$3,885,000	\$585,000

Fiscal Impact

This project has already received funding as follows:

	Grant Amount	Local Match	Total Funds
TDA3 (1999-2001)	\$500,000	\$100,000	\$600,000
GTIP	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000
TEA	\$0	\$0	\$0
City of Belmont	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>
	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$1,500,000</u>

The City of Belmont has already committed \$400,000 as the local match for the project. There is still a funding shortfall to construct the project of \$1.8 million. City staff is pursuing additional Bicycle Transportation Account, Transportation Development, and Transportation for Liveable Communities grants to fund the shortfall. In addition, the project has been identified in the proposed Measure A Transportation ½ cent Sales Tax extension for full funding. The City will need to fund the additional cost if the BTA extension is denied for the project.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to submit an application to request an extension of the Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) funding in the amount of \$585,000.

Alternatives

1. Deny the request.
2. Refer back to staff for additional information

Attachments

1. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

Bennett Chun, PE
Associate Engineer

Raymond E. Davis, III, PE, PTOE
Director of Public Works

Jere A. Kersnar
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CITY OF BELMONT
San Mateo County, California**

**AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A REQUEST TO EXTEND THE
BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION ACCOUNT FUNDS (BTA) WITH THE CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) FOR THE US HIGHWAY 101
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT, CITY CONTRACT NO. 433,
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$585,000**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Belmont has reviewed the prioritized bicycle/pedestrian project list developed by the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) and does formally accept it as indicative of the needs of Belmont; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council does approve submittal of an application to the California Department of Transportation for Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) requesting an extension of funds in the form of a Cooperative Work Agreement (CWA) for the proposed project recommended by the BAC; and,

WHEREAS, Staff has prepared this Resolution for City Council approval to fulfill the requirements of the Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) application in the form of a Cooperative Work Agreement (CWA) that the governing body approve of the project recommended by the BAC.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Belmont City Council does order the Director of the Department of Public Works to submit an application for a request to extend the Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) to the California Department of Transportation for a proposed bicycle/pedestrian bridge over Highway 101, between Hiller Street and the Belmont Sports Complex.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on this 9th day of December 2003.

AYES, COUNCILMEMBER(S): _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBER(S): _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBER(S): _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBER(S): _____

Clerk of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

Mayor of the City of Belmont

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