



STAFF REPORT

Resolution for the Authorization to Apply for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds Administered by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in the Amount of \$1,000,000 for the Purchase of Right-of-Way and the Construction of the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project, City Contract Number 433

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

Summary

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has made funds available for bicycle and pedestrian projects via the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Fund for the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program to public agencies. The City is seeking funds from the CMAQ fund in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the purchase of right-of-way and the construction of the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge project. The application is due to C/CAG on December 10, 2004.

Background and Discussion

The City of Belmont has a project to design and construct a bicycle/pedestrian bridge over U.S. Highway 101 to connect the eastern and western section of the City. The bridge is part of the San Mateo County Comprehensive Bicycle Route Plan and is on the priority list for both the City Council and Belmont's Bicycle Advisory Committee.

The City awarded the contract to T.Y. Lin International in 1999. The design phase of the project is 95% complete and the environmental clearance is approved. City Council has instructed staff not to begin the construction until it secures all the necessary funding. The City is seeking funding from the CMAQ fund for construction of the project.

CMAQ funds are awarded through a competitive process among the Bay Area's Nine County Regions. Funding is limited to projects that will improve air quality and is a discretionary program covering FY 2005-06 and FY 2006-07. Applications are due to C/CAG on December 10, 2004 with candidate projects forwarded to MTC in January 2005. The City must use these funds no later than three years after the funds have been obligated with no extension permitted.

The bicycle and pedestrian bridge over US Highway 101 project consists of the following:

- 1) Purchase right-of-way affected by the project, 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.
- 3) Construct a bicycle and pedestrian bridge to clear span US Highway 101, supported by piers within the State right-of-way.

City staff requests City Council to authorize submittal of the application to request funds from MTC by adopting the attached resolution.

Fiscal Impact

The current engineer's estimate for construction is \$4,400,000. City has currently spent approximately \$882,000 for the preparation of plans, specifications and the environmental clearance for the project. The identified funding is summarized as follows and described below.

	Estimate Cost	Funds	Source	Status
	\$4,400,000	\$585,000	BTA	Secured to April 2009
		\$220,000	TFCA	Secured to January 2007
		\$2,000,000	SAFETEA	Pending
		\$1,000,000	CMAQ	Seeking approval to apply
		\$500,000	TDA	Seeking approval to apply
		\$400,000	PARKS FUND	Budget Plan
Total	\$4,400,000	\$4,705,000		

The Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) from the State of California was applied for in June 2001. A recent request was approved by the State to extent the grant to April 30, 2009.

The Transportation for Clean Air (TFCA) grant was received in October 2004. The grant is to be expended by 2007.

There is currently \$2 million of funding in the new federal highway bill (SAFETEA) identified for the bicycle and pedestrian bridge that was adopted by Congress. It was not included as part of the Senate's new federal highway legislation. Therefore, the Conference Committee will determine whether or not the funding will be included in the final version of the federal highway bill.

The City proposed to apply for CMAQ funds and Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 funds to supplement the funding gap. The CMAQ fund is administered by MTC. The

TDA is administered by the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG).

Funding has been programmed in the Capital Improvement Program for the bicycle and pedestrian bridge. However, the funds have not been allocated by the Council for the project and will not until the project goes out for construction.

The bicycle/pedestrian bridge is also identified in the reauthorization of the County's Measure A projects. The project is one of many bicycle and pedestrian projects that will have to compete for the available funds in the extension measure. This Measure A funding is dependent upon voter approval and will not be available until 2009.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing Public Works to submit an application for a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Fund in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the purchase of right-of-way and the construction of the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project.

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

Daniel Rich
Interim City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CITY OF BELMONT
San Mateo County, California

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT FOR THE
AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY FUNDS
ADMINISTERED BY THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY AND THE
CONSTRUCTION OF THE U.S. HIGHWAY 101 BICYCLE /PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT,
CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 433**

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 accept it as essential of the needs of Belmont; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council does approve submittal of an application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Fund requesting funds 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 CMAQ Fund application for the proposed project recommended by the BAC.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Belmont City Council does direct Public Works to submit an application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funds in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the purchase of right-of-way and the construction of the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project.

* * * * *

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 26th day of October 2004.

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