



## **Staff Report**

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### RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FILING OF THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FY08 TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT ARTICLE 3 GRANT AND CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

#### **Summary**

Staff is seeking permission from City Council to apply for the FY08 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 grant for curb ramp improvements and for the California Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant for traffic calming and pedestrian safety. The TDA application is due by January 12, 2007 and the SRTS application is due January 2, 2007.

#### **Background**

The City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) has made funds available for bicycle and pedestrian related projects through the FY08 TDA Article 3 Program fund to public agencies. Staff is seeking Council approval to apply for funding from this grant to improve or install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps at various locations throughout the City.

The California Department of Transportation has also made funds available for capital or educational and encouragement projects through the SRTS program authorized by the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The SRTS program (1) "enables and encourages children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school; (2) makes bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and (3) facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools." Staff is seeking Council approval to apply for funding from this grant to provide traffic calming and pedestrian safety at the road entrance to Central School and to complete sidewalk gaps on Sixth Avenue.

## **Discussion**

### **TDA Article 3 Program**

The TDA Article 3 Program funds pedestrian and bicycle related projects. Staff is seeking approval to apply for this grant funding to address citizen complaints about the condition of existing curb ramps or the non-existence of curb ramps. Upon completion, the project will ‘eliminate or improve an identified problem area’, ‘provide a continuous interconnected route to activity centers where it did not previously exist’, and ‘enhance pedestrian commuting.’ The project will provide pedestrian routes between the senior-care facilities, shopping centers, library and schools.

Staff has identified five intersections to install or upgrade curb ramps to ADA compliance. These locations are: Alameda de las Pulgas/Carlmont Drive; Alameda de las Pulgas/Ralston Avenue; Carlmont Drive/Merry Moppet Lane; Ladera Way/Maywood Drive; and Ralston Avenue/6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Included in the project is the relocation of drainage inlets and striping. These curb ramp improvements address the priorities of the City’s 1995 ADA Title II Transition Plan.

Staff is requesting approval to apply for a grant amount of \$65,000. To keep the City’s application competitive, staff recommends a local match of 50% or \$32,500. The City must expend the awarded funds by July 2010. The City is required to provide a resolution to fulfill the requirements grant. This resolution is submitted with the formal application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

### **SRTS Program**

The federal SRTS program funds capital or educational and encouragement projects. Staff is seeking approval to apply for this grant to reconfigure the Central School intersection to improve the visibility of pedestrians in the crosswalk to vehicles entering the school. Several instances have been reported of near misses between vehicles and pedestrians crossing in the crosswalk. Drivers complain that the sun is in their eyes and they are unable to see the pedestrians under the shade of the tree on the sidewalk. Staff will design improvements to narrow the entrance leading to the school and bring the sidewalk/crosswalk further out into the open away from the under the shade of the tree for better visibility to drivers.

Staff is also designing new sidewalk construction on the east and west side of Sixth Avenue from Waltermire Street to O’Neill Avenue, excluding the property of the future site of the Emmett House. Students walk on the roadway as they travel this route to Central School. Constructing a concrete sidewalk will improve student protection and safety.

Staff is requesting approval to apply for a grant amount of \$73,000. There is no requirement for a local match for this grant. The City must expend the awarded funds by July 2011. Additionally, the City is not required to provide a resolution to fulfill the requirements of the application. However, if approved by Council staff will provide the resolution to Caltrans to enhance the chances that the application will be approved for funding.

**Fiscal Impact**

There is no direct fiscal impact from Council’s approval of the TDA and SRTS grant applications. If the TDA and SRTS grants are approved, funding will be budgeted for these projects from the FY08 budget. The grants will reimburse the City for its cost and, in the case of the TDA Article 3, provide the matching funds.

**Public Contact**

The publication and posting of the City Council agenda.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolutions authorizing the Director of Public Works to submit applications for the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 grant and the Safe Routes to School grant.

**Alternatives**

1. Take no action.
2. Refer back to staff for further information.

**Attachments**

- A. Resolution (TDA)
- B. Resolution (SRTS)

Respectfully submitted,

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Bennett Chun, P.E.  
Associate Engineer

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

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Terrence L. Belanger  
Interim City Manager

Staff Contact:  
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**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT  
APPROVING THE FILING OF THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION FY08 TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) ARTICLE 3  
GRANT APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission has made funds available for bicycle and pedestrian related projects; and,

**WHEREAS**, staff has identified locations to install or improve curb ramps to aid pedestrians; and,

**WHEREAS**, the TDA application is due to City/County Association of Governments by January 12, 2007; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City must expend the awarded funds by July 2010; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Belmont will match 50 percent of the approved TDA grant amount awarded to the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Belmont does authorize the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission FY08 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 grant.

\* \* \* \* \*

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 January 9, 2007 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR of the City of Belmont

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT  
APPROVING THE FILING OF THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation has made funds available through the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program authorized by the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) for capital or educational and encouragement projects; and,

**WHEREAS**, staff has identified improvements at the road entrance to Central School and sidewalk improvements on Sixth Avenue to aid school children; and,

**WHEREAS**, the SRTS application is due to Caltrans by January 2, 2007; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City must expend the awarded funds by July 2011; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Belmont is not required to provide a local match in order to be eligible for the SRTS grant.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Belmont does authorize the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the California Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant.

\* \* \* \* \*

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 January 9, 2007 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR of the City of Belmont