



Staff Report

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FILING OF THE BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION ACCOUNT (BTA) GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000 FOR THE U.S. HIGHWAY 101 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT, CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 433

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Staff is seeking permission from City Council to apply for the Fiscal Year 2008/2009 Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 to fund construction of the U.S. Highway 101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project. The BTA application is due by December 3, 2007.

Background

Construction of a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over U.S. Highway 101 is one of the City's priority projects. The project design is now complete and the City will be ready to invite bids for construction as soon as it obtains sufficient funding commitments. Public Works projects of this size are typically funded from several sources, drawing primarily from federal and state grants. The City's strategy for this project is to identify all appropriate grant opportunities and apply for grants as they become available. The City will not commit its own construction funding until such time as it accumulates sufficient grant funding to complete the project.

The current estimate for the bicycle and pedestrian bridge is \$5.5 million for construction and construction management services. The City has already secured one State BTA grant of \$585,000. The City also secured \$2.96 million from the Federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) through the effort of Congresswoman Anna Eshoo on behalf of the City. Staff is also watching for other funding opportunities and will recommend applying for them when they become available.

Discussion

The BTA funds local agency projects that improve safety and convenience for bicycle commuters. The BTA will provide \$7.2 million to city and county agencies in fiscal year 2008/09 through a competitive process. The maximum amount that BTA will award to any single project is \$1.8 million and the grant requires a 10 percent match from other sources (other grants and/or City funds). Awarded BTA funds must be expended by April 2011.

Belmont's Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge is eligible for this grant because it includes bicycle facility improvements identified in an adopted countywide bicycle plan. The deadline for application to Caltrans is December 3, 2007.

General Plan/Vision Statement

There is no impact from this application.

Fiscal Impact

There is no direct fiscal impact from Council's approval of the BTA grant application. Staff is watching for other funding opportunities and will recommend applying for them when they become available. Once the City has obtained sufficient grant funding, it plans to commit City funds (Measure A) as a local match for construction of the project.

Public Contact

The City Council meeting agenda was posted.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grant in the amount of \$1,000,000.

Alternatives

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

Attachments

A. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

Gilbert Yau, P.E.
Senior Civil Engineer

Raymond E. Davis, III
Director of Public Works

Jack Crist
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 BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION ACCOUNT
(BTA) GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000 FOR THE
U.S. HIGHWAY 101 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT,
CITY CONTRACT NUMBER 433**

WHEREAS, the Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project over U.S. Highway 101 is one of the City's priority projects; and,

WHEREAS, the project design is now complete; and,

WHEREAS, the BTA application is due to Caltrans by December 3, 2007; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Belmont is required to match 10 percent of the approved BTA grant amount awarded to the City; and,

WHEREAS, City staff will continue to identify all appropriate grant opportunities and apply for them as they become available to subsidize construction costs for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belmont:

1. Authorizes the Director of Public Works to submit an application for the Fiscal Year 2008/2009 Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grant for the proposed U.S. Highway Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project, City Contract Number 433.
2. Approves committing minimum 10% local match if the BTA grant is awarded to the City.

* * * * *

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 November 27, 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