



Staff Report

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FILING OF THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SR2S) GRANT WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS ALONG ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Staff is seeking permission from City Council to apply for the California Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School (SR2S) grant. The SR2S application is due April 15, 2009.

Background

The California Department of Transportation has made funds available for capital projects through the SR2S program, a state legislated program contained in Streets & Highway Code Section 2330-2334. This program has been active since 2000 and came into effect from the passage of Assembly Bill 1475 and was subsequently extended. The program is now in its eighth cycle. The program is primarily a construction program targeting K-12 schools. Applications are rated based on demonstrated need, potential for reducing child injury and fatalities, for encouraging walking and bicycling, identification of safety hazards, identification of current and potential walking and biking routes, community and other agency support.

Staff is seeking Council approval to apply for funding from this grant for one project - to increase the sidewalk width along a section of Alameda de las Pulgas; across from the Belmont Library and near Carlmont High School. This project will install an approximately 40-foot long pre-stressed concrete beam to allow for a wider sidewalk to span over the existing creek culvert.

Discussion

The State SR2S program funds capital or educational and encouragement projects. Staff is seeking approval to apply for this grant for one project. The proposed project will correct a sidewalk hazard for a portion that is located between 1133 and 1145 Alameda de las Pulgas directly across from the Belmont Library and near Carlmont High School. This section of sidewalk is located over the Belmont Creek. Also, the sidewalk has a significantly reduced width of two and a half feet over the creek and is partially obscured and obstructed by a chain link fence that is covered with heavy vine growth. The narrow width of the sidewalk is difficult for pedestrians to cross because two pedestrians cannot pass or walk adjacent to each other on this

section. Also, when the ivy is heavily grown, wheelchair access is also difficult. This situation will be corrected by removing and replacing the fence further back with a lower fence that will not have any vegetation, and constructing a support system over the creek.

Staff is requesting approval to apply for a grant amount of \$200,000 (which includes design and construction) for the project. There is a requirement for a 10% local match (\$20,000) for this grant. The City must expend the awarded funds within four federal fiscal years after the funds are obligated. The City is not required to provide a resolution to fulfill the requirements of the application. However, providing a resolution approved by Council to Caltrans shows support for the project and thus improves the chance that the application will be approved for funding.

General Plan/Vision Statement

Sidewalk improvements comply with the following General Plan section:

Section 2120: *“Sidewalks and paths are needed to permit safe walking within and between neighborhoods. Safe means of walking to schools and parks are especially important.”*

Fiscal Impact

If the SR2S grant is approved, funding will be budgeted for this project from the FY10 budget. The grant will reimburse the City for its cost except for the 10% (\$20,000) matching funds which will be budgeted from 234-3-730-3100-9030 funds.

Public Contact

Public contact included publication and posting of the City Council agenda. City staff has consulted with the School District and the Police Department. City staff has informally secured commitment from the schools to support the application.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Engineer to submit an application for the Safe Routes to School grant.

Alternatives

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

Attachments

- A. Resolution
- B. Site Photo
- C. Aerial Map

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Esqueda
Engineering Technician

Karen Borrmann, P.E.
City Engineer

Jack R. Crist
City Manager

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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 FOR
SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS ALONG ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS**

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation has made funds available for capital or educational and encouragement projects through the SR2S program, a state legislated program contained in Streets & Highway Code Section 2330-2334 for capital projects; and,

WHEREAS, staff has identified a location for sidewalk improvements on Alameda de las Pulgas; across from the Belmont Library; and,

WHEREAS, the SR2S application is due to Caltrans by April 15, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, the City must expend the awarded funds within four federal fiscal years after the funds are obligated; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Belmont is required to provide a 10% local match (\$20,000) in order to be eligible for the SR2S grant, which would be budgeted in fiscal year 2010/2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belmont does authorize the City Engineer to submit an application for the California Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School (SR2S) 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 April 14, 2009 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

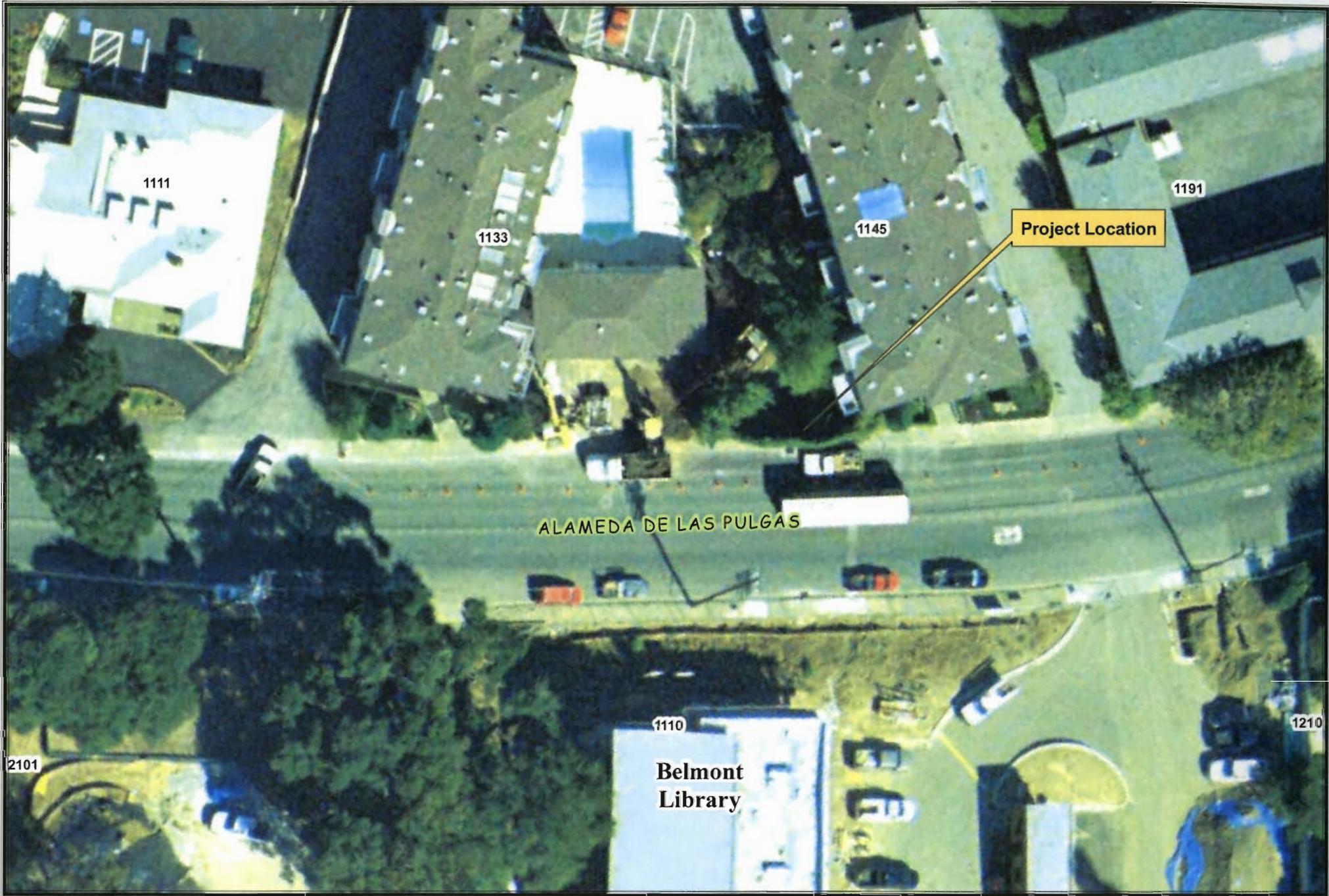
CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont







ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS

Project Location

1110

Belmont
Library



1 INCH = 40 FEET
APRIL 2009

VICINITY OF ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS

ATTACHMENT C