



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

LAND USE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

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Fifth District

DATE: April 8, 2015

08

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH APPROPRIATIONS AND EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH SANDAG USING TRANSNET FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (DISTRICTS: ALL)

Overview

The County of San Diego has multiple planning documents that guide development of transportation networks, such as the Mobility Element, Bicycle Transportation Plan and Pedestrian Area Plans.

In 2014, the Departments of Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Planning & Development Services and the Health and Human Services Agency collaboratively applied for grant funding through the California Active Transportation Program for a county-wide Active Transportation Plan (ATP). The project was selected during the regional round administered by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

The ATP will integrate and update several existing plans, programs and documents into a comprehensive package for the unincorporated communities. This County ATP will serve as a master plan and policy document to guide the development and maintenance of active transportation infrastructure including sidewalks, pathways, multi-use trails, and bikeways, as well as Safe-Routes-to-School programs for the unincorporated communities. The creation of an ATP aligns strongly with the Built and Natural Environment – Transportation focus area of the *Live Well San Diego Thriving* initiative. This key focus area of *Thriving* aims to broaden transportation options to improve accessibility and connections between destinations, a goal that includes developing active transportation plans for the County's unincorporated communities by working with stakeholders and utilizing SANDAG technical assistance and grant funds.

Today's request is to enter into a grant agreement with SANDAG for \$500,000 and establish appropriations in the Department of Planning & Development Services for development of the County's ATP.

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Recommendation(s)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find that the proposed project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility this project may have a significant effect on the environment as stated in the Notice of Exemption.
2. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts – Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires full cost recovery for grants, as these grant programs do not recover full cost.
3. Authorize the Director, Department of Planning & Development Services to accept grant funds for the development of the Active Transportation Plan totaling \$500,000 from SANDAG for the period April 1, 2015 to April 1, 2018.
4. Adopt the Resolution entitled: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF TRANSNET/ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION GRANT FUNDS THROUGH THE SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COUNTY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN, AND ACCEPTING THE TERMS OF THE GRANT AGREEMENT #5004631
5. Establish appropriations of \$500,000 in the Department of Planning & Development Services, Services and Supplies to fund development of an Active Transportation Plan based on a grant from SANDAG. **(4 VOTES)**
6. Authorize the Director, Department of Planning & Development Services, as agent of the County, to conduct all negotiations and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, contracts, and payment requests and to execute the grant agreement upon award of grant funds, including any extensions or amendments thereof, that do not materially impact or alter the grant program or funding level.

Fiscal Impact

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Operational Plan in the Department of Planning & Development Services. If approved, this request will result in current year costs and revenue of \$650,000. The funding sources are a grant from SANDAG (\$500,000) and matching funds (\$150,000) in the form of staff time by each department assisting with this project: Planning & Development Services, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and the Health and Human Services Agency. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

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Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

Background

On September 26, 2014, SANDAG approved the results of the San Diego Regional Active Transportation Program competition for California Transportation Commission consideration, including the selection of the County of San Diego – Active Transportation Plan (ATP). Consistent with its role as the Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible for overseeing the regional Program project selection process, SANDAG worked with successful applicants previously selected as part of the regional competition to shift state and federal Program funds in exchange for local *TransNet* funds.

On November 5, 2014 the SANDAG Board approved the Active Transportation Program and *TransNet* – Bicycle Pedestrian Neighborhood Safety funding swap for local agencies. On January 16, 2015 the SANDAG Transportation Committee approved a Regional Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment completing the funding swap.

The County of San Diego ATP will integrate and update several existing plans, programs and documents into a comprehensive planning document for the unincorporated communities. Once in place, this comprehensive plan will be a key component in the implementation of the *Thriving* initiative of *Live Well San Diego*, which aims to improve the quality-of-life for everyone in the region. In particular, a robust ATP will further the transportation and built and natural environment goal areas of *Thriving*, helping to broaden and strengthen the transportation options available throughout the county. In addition, development and adoption of a Plan is required for the County to be eligible for future funding under the California Active Transportation Program and SANDAG Active Transportation Grant Program.

The ATP will be completed within 36 months of the completed Notice to Proceed executed as part of the grant agreement with SANDAG. The process will be a joint effort with the community and the four partnered departments. As detailed in the attached budget and scope the process will include:

- Project Management and Public Outreach,
- Existing Conditions Inventory/Mapping and User Needs Assessment,
- Plan Development,
- Environmental Documentation, and
- Plan Adoption.

Upon completion of the draft Plan, County staff will return to the Board for consideration and adoption. Approval of the Resolution will not result in plans or projects being completed without Board review.

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Environmental Statement

In accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), of the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, find that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility this project may have a significant effect on the environment for the reasons listed in the Notice of Exemption. The ATP will integrate and update several existing plans into a comprehensive planning document. This action does not approve the construction of any specific project.

Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan

Today's proposed actions support the Healthy Families Initiative in the County of San Diego's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan by developing an Active Transportation Plan to provide every resident the opportunity to make positive healthy choices. The proposed actions will also advance the County's Vision of *Live Well San Diego* and are strongly aligned with key focus areas of the *Thriving* component.

Respectfully submitted,



SARAH E. AGHASSI
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Attachment A- Notice of Exemption
- Attachment B- Draft Resolution
- Attachment C- Grant Agreement #5004631
- Attachment D- Active Transportation Plan Scope, Schedule and Budget

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED
 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

September 26, 2012 (8), Adopted a Resolution approving authorization of application and acceptance, of federal state and local grant funds for transportation related improvements.

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

B-29 Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts – Department Responsible for Cost Recovery

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

In accordance with Board of Supervisors Policy B-29, the Director, Department of Planning and Development Services, certifies worthiness of projects for which this grant agreement is being sought, and that the projects would be appropriate for full County funding if grant funding was not available.

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):

N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Department of Planning & Development Services

OTHER CONCURRENCES(S): Department of Public Works
Department of Parks and Recreation
Health and Human Services Agency

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