

**County of Santa Clara
Roads and Airports Department**



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DATE: August 13, 2019

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Harry Freitas, Director, Roads and Airports

SUBJECT: FY 19-20 TDA3 Application Foothill Auxiliary Lane Project

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution requesting the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to allocate Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Transportation Development Act Article 3 (TDA3) pedestrian/bicycle project funding for Foothill Expressway between El Monte Avenue and San Antonio Road Project. (Roll Call Vote)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. TDA3 funding is included in the FY 2019-2020 Road Fund approved budget, Fund 0020.

CONTRACT HISTORY

None.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Transportation Development Act (TDA) was enacted by the California State Legislature in 1972. This legislation imposes a half-cent per gallon tax on gasoline and diesel fuel sold within the State of California, the proceeds from which are dedicated towards transportation purposes. Article 3 of the TDA sets aside a portion of these funds for bicycle and pedestrian projects.

Based on Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) policy, 75 percent of the countywide TDA Article 3 funding is allocated to jurisdictions within Santa Clara County based on population as guaranteed funds. The County of Santa Clara's guaranteed allocation has traditionally been used for unincorporated road pedestrian improvements.

The County will receive approximately \$100,000 in TDA Article 3 guaranteed funds for FY 2019 -2020, and intends to apply them toward the Foothill Expressway Auxiliary Lane project between San Antonio Road and El Monte Avenue. The total project cost is approximately \$5.1 million. The project aims to improve safety and operational deficiencies along the corridor by:

- Eliminating the right turn islands and slip ramps on selected corners of the Foothill Expressway/El Monte Avenue intersection and replace them with squared corners and bike slots to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety;
- Constructing new curb ramps to improve safety and crossing conditions for pedestrians and non-motorized users;
- Installing pedestrian/bicycle sensors at the intersection of Foothill Expressway/El Monte Avenue to allow sufficient cycle time for pedestrians and bicyclists crossing Foothill Expressway; and
- Installing an auxiliary lane in each direction of Foothill Expressway to improve flow during peak travel times.

The TDA guaranteed funds will be used to support the cost of pedestrian/bicycle sensors and ADA curb ramps. Measure B funds, along with a City of Los Altos local match of \$521,000, will fund the remaining costs of the project. The Board of Supervisors approved the environmental clearance, a Mitigated Negative Declaration, for the project on January 15, 2019. Staff presented the application to the regional Bicycle Policy Advisory Committee (BPAC) at their regular scheduled meeting on May 8, 2019, where the BPAC unanimously approved the application, forwarding a favorable recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

In addition to the TDA Article 3 guarantee funds, the VTA allocates an off-the-top annual amount of \$150,000 of TDA funds specifically to the County to be used for closing sidewalk gaps along the expressways. Local jurisdictions may bank up to four years of funds to create a larger funding source for a project.

For the County's annual allocation of \$150,000, the County will bank that amount for four years with the intent of filling in sidewalk gaps on Capitol Expressway in FY 2022-2023.

CHILD IMPACT

Positive Impact: The recommended action impacts the Healthy Lifestyle indicator by improving pedestrian and bicycle access to commercial, transit, and community services for all members of the traveling public, including children and youth.

SENIOR IMPACT

Positive Impact: The recommended action will improve pedestrian and bicycle access to commercial, transit, and community services for all members of the traveling public, including seniors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Positive Impact: The recommended action will encourage walking and bicycling to nearby commercial, transit, and community services resulting in fewer car trips and thereby reducing vehicle miles traveled, vehicle emissions, and energy consumption.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The resolution will not be adopted and the project will not be eligible for additional TDA-3 grant funding.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Send notification of completed processing to Ellen Talbo, Roads & Airports Department – Infrastructure Development Division, and Kelly Roberts, Roads & Airports Department – Administration.

ATTACHMENTS:

- TDA3 Resolution (PDF)