



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2015

FROM: COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT WARD: 5

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE 2015-2016 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN TO ALLOCATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING FOR A PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL AT MAGNOLIA AVENUE AND FARNHAM PLACE – \$83,000 FUNDS TRANSFER

ISSUE:

The issue for City Council consideration is approval of an amendment to the City's 2015-2016 HUD Annual Action Plan to allocate Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of \$83,000 from Community Development Block Grant Un-programmed Funds for the installation of a pedestrian signal at Magnolia Avenue and Farnham Place.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Authorize an amendment to the 2015-2016 HUD Annual Action Plan to allocate \$83,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds for a pedestrian signal at Magnolia Avenue and Farnham Place;
2. Authorize a funds transfer of Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of \$83,000 from Unprogrammed Funds, Account Number 2835100-453001 to a pedestrian signal at Magnolia Avenue and Farnham Place, Account Number 9258800-440120;
3. Authorize the City Attorney's Office to prepare the Community Development Block Grant Memorandum of Understanding with the Public Works Department for the allocated amount and authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding, including making minor, non-substantive changes, and to sign all documents and instruments necessary to implement this action; and
4. Authorize the Finance Director to appropriate the funds to General Fund 101 project accounts to be assigned by the Finance Director and to be offset by an equal appropriation to object 895220 charging the project expenditures to the Community Development Block Grant Fund 220.

BACKGROUND:

The City's proposal to allocate Community Development Block Grant funds in the amount of \$83,000 is for the installation of a pedestrian High-Intensity Activated crosswalk (HAWK) beacon at the intersection of Magnolia Avenue and Farnham Place. A HAWK beacon uses a sequence of yellow and red flashing lights designed to catch a motorists' attention at a crosswalk. Pedestrians must currently cross four lanes of traffic across eighty feet of unprotected arterial with a posted speed limit of forty miles per hour. Installation of a HAWK beacon would enhance the safety at this important crossing. The signalized crossing will serve students walking to Liberty Elementary School and the Arlington Village business district, totaling in approximately 125 pedestrians per day. The total project cost is approximately \$83,000.

A public notice was issued announcing the proposed amendment to the HUD Annual Action Plan and a 30-day public comment period was provided in compliance with HUD regulations. The notice was published in the Press Enterprise on Friday, October 30, 2015, and included the date this action would be considered by the City Council. The proposed project is eligible under the HUD Community Development Block Grant National Objective of low and moderate area benefit.

The Interim Director of the Public Works Department concurs with the transfer of Community Development Block Grant funding for the HAWK Pedestrian Signal at Magnolia Avenue and Farnham Place.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the City General Fund. Sufficient funds totaling \$83,000 are available in Community Development Block Grant Un-Programmed Fund Account No. 2835100-453001.

Prepared by:	Rafael Guzman, Community & Economic Development Director
Certified as to availability of funds:	Brent A. Mason, Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney