



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

**FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT      WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AGREEMENTS FOR FUNDING UNDER FY 2021/22 TDA ARTICLE 3 (SB 821) BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES PROGRAM FOR SIDEWALK AND INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$412,500**

## **ISSUE:**

Consideration of authorization to enable the Public Works Department to accept grant funding in the amount of \$412,500 through Riverside County Transportation Commission's FY 2021/22 TDA Article 3 (SB 821) Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program to construct new concrete sidewalks and pedestrian ramps, new LED stop signs, and high visibility crosswalks.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Approve Public Works Department acceptance of Riverside County Transportation Commission FY 2021/22 TDA Article 3 (SB 821) Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program Grant funding in the amount of \$250,000 with a local match of the same amount to construct new concrete sidewalks and pedestrian ramps;
2. Approve Public Works Department acceptance of Riverside County Transportation Commission FY 2021/22 TDA Article 3 (SB 821) Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program Grant funding in the amount of \$162,500 with a local match of \$162,500 to install new LED stop signs & high visibility crosswalks, and host Cycling Savvy training & educational events;
3. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute all of the Riverside County Transportation Commission FY 2021/22 TDA Article 3 (SB 821) Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program Grant Agreements and any related grant documents;
4. With at least five affirmative votes, authorize a supplemental appropriation and record an increase in revenue in the amount of \$162,500 in the Transportations Projects Fund, Citywide LED Stop Sign Install Project; and
5. With at least five affirmative votes, authorize a supplemental appropriation and record an increase in revenue in the amount of \$250,000 in the Capital Outlay Grants Fund, Bryan and Cochran Sidewalk project.

## **LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

On April 20, 2021, the City Council authorized the submittal of three grant applications to the Riverside County Transportation Commission for sidewalk improvements, crosswalk improvements, and bicycle training and educational events.

## **BACKGROUND:**

TDA Article 3, or SB 821, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program, is provided through the Transportation Development Act (TDA), funded through a ¼ cent of the general statewide sales tax. The TDA provides two major sources of funding for public transportation: the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and the State Transit Assistance (STA). The LTF provides funding for essential transit and commuter rail services, TDA Article 3/SB 821, and planning efforts. Each year, two percent of the LTF revenue is made available for use on bicycle and pedestrian facility projects through the TDA Article 3/SB 821 program. TDA Article 3/SB 821 is a discretionary program administered by the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC).

The amount available for programming in the 2021 TDA Article 3/SB 821 Call for Projects is an estimated \$4,325,000. Each City/Agency is eligible to submit up to three applications. Each application is limited to a maximum request of 10% of available funding (\$432,500). Total award to each City/Agency is limited to 20% of available funding (\$865,000). In response to the call for projects, the City of Riverside submitted three applications, requesting a total of \$442,500 in funding.

## **DISCUSSION:**

On June 24, 2021, RCTC notified the Public Works Department that two of the City's three separate grant applications requesting TDA Article 3/SB 821 grant funding had been successful. The approved grant applications and amounts are as follows:

1. \$250,000 with a City match from the Special Gas Tax Fund of the same amount to construct new concrete sidewalks and pedestrian ramps at Bryan Street and Cochran Avenue; and
2. \$162,500 with a City match from the Special Gas Tax Fund of the same amount to install LED Stop signs, high visibility crosswalks, and upgraded pedestrian ramps at 14 intersections;

### *Application 1*

The first approved application requested a total of \$250,000 in TDA Article3/SB 821 grant funding to construct new concrete sidewalks and pedestrian ramps on Bryan Street from Mobley Avenue to the easterly terminus, and on Cochran Avenue from Mobley Avenue to Pendleton Street (Attachment 3).

### *Application 2*

An application requesting \$162,500 to install solar-powered LED-flashing stop signs, upgraded high-visibility (continental) crosswalk striping, and updated pedestrian ramps at the following fourteen locations was also approved:

LED STOP SIGN LOCATIONS	
WARD	LED FLASHING STOP SIGN LOCATIONS
1	MAPLEWOOD @ BIRCH
1	GRAND @ RUBIDOUX
2	FLANDERS @ HIGHLANDER
2	FAIR ISLE @ ABERNATHY (N)
3	JANE @ FAIRCHILD
3	MAUDE @ LINCOLN
4	KRAMERIA @ ALTA CRESTA
4	RED POPPY @ DIGGER PINE
5	GARFIELD @ MONROE
5	HAYES @ ROOSEVELT
6	JONES @ CASS
6	MOBLEY @ COOK
7	MITCHELL @ GRAMERCY
7	RUTLAND @ ADLER

The recommended streets and intersections are in close proximity to local schools, parks, and shopping centers. When implemented, the new sidewalks, stop signs, crosswalks, and pedestrian ramps are expected to improve sidewalk connectivity, enhance safety and mobility for residents, and improve public health by encouraging increased walking and a more active lifestyle. The combined effects would also reduce greenhouse gas emissions as residents would be encouraged to walk for their shorter trips

### **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

This item contributes to the Envision Riverside 2025 City Council Strategic Priority 6 – Infrastructure, Mobility, and Connectivity and the following goals:

6.1 – Provide, expand and ensure equitable access to sustainable modes of transportation that connect people to opportunities such as employment, education, healthcare, and community amenities.

6.2 – Maintain, protect, and improve assets and infrastructure within the City's built environment to ensure and enhance reliability, resiliency, sustainability, and facilitate connectivity.

6.3 – Identify and pursue new and unique funding opportunities to develop, operate, maintain, and renew infrastructure and programs that meet the community's needs.

Furthermore, this project aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads:

1. **Community Trust** – The proposed improvements are part of a more significant endeavor to improve the City's transportation network and quality of life for the residents and visitors. The proposed project improvements are primarily based on residential service requests received by The Public Works Department (Public Works).
2. **Equity** – Public Works strives to improve the City's roadway network to provide safe and

reliable transportation in all areas of the City. The proposed project includes locations within all wards, many located in disadvantaged communities that will benefit from improved active transportation connectivity.

3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – The proposed pedestrian improvement projects leverage \$412,500 Special Gas Tax funds to garner grant funding of an equal amount, doubling the budget for needed improvements to a total of \$825,000.
4. **Innovation** – The proposed LED Lit Stop sign improvements combine innovative solar technology with an updated traffic safety device element to increase compliance with stop signs and improve safety at the intersections.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – The construction materials specified for the proposed projects meet or exceed industry standards and are expected to last well into the future. The improvements will also promote a sustainable, healthy lifestyle by enhancing the safety and connectivity of walking paths and bikeways.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The fiscal impact of this recommendation is \$412,500. Upon Council approval, record an increase in revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$162,500 in the Transportations Projects Fund, Citywide LED Stop Sign Install Project expenditure account number 9918729-440221 and revenue account number 9918729-335911; and record an increase in revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$250,000 in the Capital Outlay Grants Fund, Bryan and Cochran Sidewalk Project expenditure account number 9920100-440236 and revenue account number 9920100-335450. Future budget(s) will include local match required for grant award and will be included in future submissions to Council for adoption.

Table 1 - Funding Sources

<b>Bryan and Cochran Sidewalk</b>	
Local Match	\$250,000
SB 821 Funding	\$250,000
Total	\$500,000
<b>Citywide LED and Sign Improvements</b>	
Local Match	\$162,500
SB 821 Funding	\$162,500
Total	\$325,000

Prepared by: Gilbert Hernandez, Interim Public Works Director  
 Certified as to availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer  
 Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager  
 Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

### Attachments:

1. Agreement 1
2. Agreement 2
3. Sidewalk Location Map