



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: Feb 6, 2025

From: Jeremy Dennis, City Manager

Subject: Congressional Appropriation Discussion

Recommendation

Staff recommend that the City Council discuss and recommend potential projects for support by Congressman Kevin Mullin's office through the annual appropriations process.

Background

In March of every year, the Congressman Kevin Mullin's office opens a [portal](#) for use by municipalities and other eligible partners to submit their project for inclusion in the congressional appropriations process. Requests submitted are publicly viewable once requested.

Brisbane has submitted and received funds through this appropriation process, most recently in FY 2025 with an award of \$1,494,260 for the Glen Park Pump Station Replacement.

Discussion

According to Congressman Mullin's webpage on this matter, the Appropriations Committee has not released guidance or deadlines in advance of the FY 26 "asks" and instead refers potential submitters to FY 25 guidance. While the guidance is likely to change, the project list from FY 25 is illustrative of the types of projects that may be supported:

- Community Centers
- Sewer and drainage projects
- Street and highway safety improvements
- Trail support

The full list is attached to this staff report at Attachment 1.

Given that FY 26 guidance has not been released, staff recommend that the Council discuss issue areas that they would like to see support through the appropriations process. Staff can take that guidance and provide a staff report at an upcoming meeting seeking authorization for submittal of the final project.

Fiscal Impact

None at this time. Appropriation requests typically require a 20% match that can be allocated at a future date.

Attachment

1.FY 25 Project List

Jeremy Dennis

Jeremy Dennis, City Manager

FY25 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

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Appropriations requests from other years:

- [FY24 Appropriations requests](#)
- [FY26 Appropriations requests](#)

In FY25, Congress will allocate some of the federal budget for Community Project Funding (CPF, also known as an “earmark”), which is for one-off nonprofit, state or local government, or tribal projects. Please note that while there are many worthy organizations and projects, not every project will be funded and most projects will not be funded at the level requested below. No funding will be made available until and if the FY25 Appropriations bill(s) are passed by both the House and Senate and signed by the President.

Rep. Mullin submitted the following Community Project Funding requests to the Appropriations Committee for FY25:

Belmont – Twin Pines Park Stormwater Capture Project – \$4,000,000

The funding would be used to construct a new stormwater capture facility beneath the parking lot in the park to increase the creek’s capacity and reduce downstream flooding risk. This Project is an effort to follow the City’s Twin Pines Park Master Plan and Belmont Creek Watershed Management Plan to reduce flooding within the Belmont Creek Watershed, specifically within the Harbor Industrial Area, and provide an active creek corridor for the public. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Belmont Creek Harbor Industrial Area floodplain has a 0.2% chance annually of flooding. This means that the area should anticipate significant flood damages at least once every 50 years, which is a disproportionate level of risk given the close proximity of the creek to industrially zoned property.

[Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.](#)

Brisbane – Glen Park Pump Station Replacement – \$1,494,260

The funding would be used to replace the Glen Park Pump Station by rehabilitating and upgrading the facility to correct existing and future capacity issues and to ensure functionality, resiliency, and reliability of the City’s water distribution system. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Glen Park Pump Station is an integral part of Brisbane’s municipal water system, which provides the community with sufficient fire flow capacity during an emergency. If the pumping station were to fail,

City would lose the ability to pump water to the reservoirs that provide fire flow to the main residential part of Brisbane. This pump station is more than 50 years old and no longer meets the operational needs of the community.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

Burlingame/Caltrain – Broadway Grade Separation Project – \$5,000,000

The funding would be used to separate the train tracks from the road at Broadway in the City of Burlingame. It will address numerous safety and congestion challenges directly attributable to this at-grade crossing, including 12 train-vehicle crashes, involving serious injuries and a fatality in the last 10 years. Project benefits include elimination of train-vehicle collisions, increased safety for all modes of transportation, decreased traffic congestion, and improved access and connectivity for transit, pedestrians, and motorists. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will deliver benefits to the local community and to the State of California including increased safety for pedestrians and motorists, reduced emissions via decreased vehicle idling and congestion, and increased multimodal transportation connectivity.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

Daly City – Vista Grande Drainage Basin Improvement Project – \$2,500,000

The funding would be used for managing, treating, and reusing stormwater in the Vista Grande Drainage Basin, located in my district, while also providing regional water supply and recreational benefits. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Vista Grande Drainage Basin Improvement Project was designed to have both local and regional benefits, including numerous communities in my district, namely Daly City, the City and County of San Francisco, and San Mateo County. Constructing this project is a priority to both Daly City and the region because it addresses several major problems in the Vista Grande Watershed, including stormwater management, water supply, and water quality issues that have challenged the region for years. Daly City and the National Park Service, as Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act, have already prepared a joint Final Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement, and are ready to begin construction.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

East Palo Alto – Woodland Avenue Safety Improvements – \$2,400,000

The funding would be used for the design and construction of safety improvements along a dangerous stretch of Woodland Avenue between University Avenue and Newell Road. This project will provide essential infrastructure and safety improvements for the section of East Palo Alto with the largest number of low and moderate income residents. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because The Woodland Avenue Safety Improvements Project will rehabilitate the deteriorated pavement, install sidewalks, provide ADA accessibility, construct bulb-outs, provide stormwater management improvements, include new signage and striping and utilize other traffic calming measures.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

Millbrae – Trail to Bay Connections – \$4,000,000

The funding would be used for the design and construction of safe connections from the regional Sawyer Camp Trail to the Bay Trail and other regional destinations, such as regional parks, commercial areas, medical centers, and transit hubs. In addition, the project would look at closing the Bay Trail gap within Millbrae. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the project would provide a much-needed safe connection for bicyclists and pedestrians between trails to get to regional destinations. It

would make long-overdue safety improvements to existing streets and would lay the groundwork for other future trail safety improvements.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

Redwood City – SR 84–US 101 Interchange Reimagined – \$3,500,000

The funding would be used to provide roadway safety improvements, improved bicycling and walking facilities, increased efficiency of goods movement, improved air quality and sustainability, and expanded access to the interchange for low-income communities. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the proposed project area currently has a high rate of collisions, traffic flow congestion for commuters and the movement of goods to the Port of Redwood City, and results in increased greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. These improvements will reduce travel times for commuters, provide low-cost transportation choices that benefit adjacent low-income residents, and lower GHG emissions to improve public health.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

SamTrans (San Mateo County Transit District) – Bus Stop Amenity Improvements – \$2,089,080

The funding would be used to support the SamTrans Bus Stop Improvement Plan (BSIP), which would install over 170 new shelters, 75 new bus bulbs or boarding islands, and nearly 200 digital real-time information signs to over 220 bus stops. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will be used to improve SamTrans's top 20 priority bus stops, which are located in San Mateo, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Daly City, East Palo Alto, Belmont, and Redwood City, serving a population most in need of affordable, accessible, and high-quality public transit. SamTrans is prioritizing stops that have the highest ridership levels and are in most need of improvement.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

San Bruno – Huntington Ave Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements – \$4,000,000

The funding would be used for construction of a two-way cycle track with concrete barrier and installation of streetscape improvements, including pedestrian-scale lighting, pedestrian signals that will provide added safety for pedestrians and/or bicyclists on Huntington Avenue. Street trees will also be planted for a more pleasant experience. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will provide enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities along Huntington Avenue which is a critical arterial road that includes both the regional train stations in San Bruno and serves as a connector to the Centennial Way Trail into South San Francisco. Building pedestrian improvements such as pedestrian scale lighting and pedestrian signals will enhance safety for pedestrians and provide a better environment for walking.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

San Carlos – US 101/Holly Street Interchange & Overcrossing – \$2,900,000

The funding would be used to convert the existing US 101/Holly Street Interchange from a Type L-10 four-quadrant cloverleaf to a Type L-9 partial cloverleaf interchange configuration on US 101. In addition, a 12'-wide Pedestrian/Bicycle Overcrossing (POC) over US 101 would be added to the south of the US 101/Holly Street Interchange, providing a connection from East San Carlos Avenue on the west to Monte Vista Drive on the east. The City seeks to update the project design, plan specifications, permits and construction documents in order to renew, update, and implement this project. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project would also make important safety improvements for pedestrians crossing Holly Street by reducing pedestrian and bicycle conflicts with motor vehicles within the interchange area.



Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

San Francisco – Crocker Amazon Playground – Purple Playground Project – \$3,500,000

The funding would be used to renovate the playground with improvements such as the Nature Exploration Area, picnic areas, bench seating, trees, and planting. The upgrades to the playground will include swings, slides, climbing structures, and balance beams. The project will also improve 3,500 square feet of walkways within the playground, and 3,000 square feet of concrete sidewalks to be ADA compliant, replace 5,200 square feet of lawn, create gathering areas for park users by adding new benches, picnic tables, and trash receptacles in the park. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the improvements to this site would serve over 15,000 residents, particularly under-resourced children and seniors, who travel to use the park for sports and other activities.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

San Francisco – Visitacion Valley Family Center Improvements – \$959,982

The funding would be used for facility upgrades, including repaving and leveling of the courtyard to better facilitate drainage into an existing storm drain, remodeling the second floor of the Family Center to be used as offices, and installing an elevator to improve the accessibility of the facility. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the facility upgrades will allow increased capacity to better assist community members who wish to use the Family Center. Older adults and people with disabilities will also benefit from the building upgrades from having a safer courtyard and an elevator to office rooms on the second floor.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

City of San Mateo – Lakeshore Community Day Care Center – \$2,000,000

The funding would be used for planning and design to renovate the Lakeshore Community Center to increase access to affordable full-day preschool in San Mateo for the city's lowest income families. The Center has not seen significant upgrades since it opened in 1967. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the City preschool programs are the most affordable in San Mateo, serving the most economically vulnerable populations in our community. The Center can currently only be utilized for part-time, unlicensed childcare as the facility does not meet code requirements to become a full-day licensed childcare location. It suffers from outdated plumbing and electrical, limited office space, no air conditioning, and is out of compliance with ADA requirements. With the appropriate renovations, the services of the Center could be expanded to support the needs of this growing community.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

City of San Mateo (Army Corps of Engineers) – Marina Lagoon Dredging To Restore Stormwater Retention Capacity – \$2,000,000

The funding would be used to develop a project design, secure permits, and address California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements (including any additional characterization of sediment), to support a future Marina Lagoon dredging project. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because performing the dredging would restore 40 acre-feet of stormwater retention capacity and all 77% of lost acreage to summer boating due to shallow depths. Proper functioning of the Lagoon as a stormwater retention facility reduces risk of residual interior flooding which would reduce accessibility of major transportation corridors.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.

South San Francisco – Westborough Early Childhood Education Center – \$2,000,000

The funding would be used to double the capacity at the existing Westborough Preschool. Currently,



City would lose the ability to pump water to the reservoirs that provide fire flow to the main residential part of Brisbane. This pump station is more than 50 years old and no longer meets the operational needs of the community.

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Westborough Preschool has three classrooms, serving 60 children. If awarded these funds, the City will be able to expand Westborough Preschool to accommodate an additional three classrooms, thus increasing capacity to approximately 120 preschoolers. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the expansion of the Westborough Early Learning Center is consistent with the goals of HUD's Community Development Fund in that it supports community development activities to build stronger and more resilient communities.

Financial disclosure certification and federal nexus letter.