



STAFF REPORT
12/11/2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Jaime Arroyo, Grants Manager

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution No. 2024-69 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program in the Amount Not-To-Exceed Twenty-Five Million (\$25,000,000) Dollars for the City's State Route 86 at Ave 50 Interchange Project

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council considers adopting Resolution No. 2024-19 authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program in the amount not-to-exceed twenty-five million (\$25,000,000) dollars for the City's State Route 86 at Ave 50 Interchange Project.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program provides grants for surface transportation infrastructure projects with significant local or regional impact. The eligibility requirements of RAISE allow project sponsors, including state and local governments, counties, Tribal governments, transit agencies, and port authorities, to pursue multi-modal and multi-jurisdictional projects that are more difficult to fund through other grant programs.

The RAISE program, previously known as the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) and Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grants, was established under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and operated under annual appropriations acts until authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) in November 2021.

The City of Coachella will submit an application under Round 2:
The Department will make another round of selections using a portion of the \$1.5 billion in FY 2025 RAISE BIL funds and/or additional funding that may become available for the program under the FY 2025 Appropriations Act. Please note, all FY 2025 annual appropriations amounts

are subject to availability of funding. DOT cannot guarantee that Congress will appropriate additional funding to RAISE via a future FY 2025 appropriation.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The City of Coachella is submitting a RAISE Grant application for funding in the amount not-to-exceed \$25,000,000 for the SR-86 Avenue 50 Interchange Project. Proposed improvements include the realignment and widening of Avenue 50 from the existing two-lane roadway to a six-lane major arterial, and the realignment of Tyler Street on both the east and west sides of SR-86.

The project will improve safety by implementing an overcrossing structure eliminating potential conflicts between mainline and crossing traffic at the existing at-grade crossing. The existing accident rates are currently higher than statewide average. The new interchange will also add and encourage more active transportation, allowing traffic to keep flowing and reducing both greenhouse gases and idling.

Consistent with the California State Transportation Agency's (CalSTA) Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), the project will include sidewalks and portion of CV Link access ramps promoting walking, biking, and LSEV, resulting in reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). The project will also act as a catalyst to stimulate economic development by providing better employment and housing opportunities. It will also create environmental sustainability and resiliency benefits for the residents to work locally, resulting in fewer vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in accordance with CAPTI guiding principles.

FISCAL IMPACT

Submission of this grant application has no fiscal impact on the City of Coachella. The project site is in an identified Area of Persistent Poverty and Historically Disadvantaged Community, making it eligible for up to 100% in Federal funding.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2024-69 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program in the Amount Not-To-Exceed Twenty-Five Million (\$25,000,000) Dollars for the City's State Route 86 at Ave 50 Interchange Project
2. Not Adopt Resolution No. 2024-69 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program in the Amount Not-To-Exceed Twenty-Five Million (\$25,000,000) Dollars for the City's State Route 86 at Ave 50 Interchange Project

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 2024-69

