



# Folsom City Council Staff Report

<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	2/9/2021
<b>AGENDA SECTION:</b>	Consent Calendar
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Resolution No. 10587 – A Resolution Approving the Application for Grant Funds from the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for the Folsom Boulevard Overcrossing Feasibility Study Project
<b>FROM:</b>	Parks and Recreation Department

**RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

Staff recommends the City Council approve Resolution No. 10587 – A Resolution Approving the Application for Grant Funds from the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for the Folsom Boulevard Overcrossing Feasibility Study Project.

**BACKGROUND / ISSUE**

In 1998, the City hired an engineering consultant firm to prepare a trail and street crossing study for the 16-mile Humbug-Willow Creek corridor. The purpose of the study was to analyze each location where the proposed trail intersects with an existing roadway and examine alternatives to determine the most feasible trail crossing option at each location. There were several factors considered including existing drainage and/or bridge structures, traffic volumes, environmental and right-of-way constraints, and adjacent land uses. A grade-separated crossing was recommended at Folsom Boulevard based on the current and future traffic volumes and speeds on Folsom Boulevard; future light rail service parallel to Folsom Boulevard; and the potential number of trail users on the Humbug-Willow Creek Trail that would need to cross Folsom Boulevard to access the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area Lake Natoma Bike Path.

On March 22, 2018, the Parks and Recreation Department staff hosted a public workshop on the proposed grade-separated trail crossing at Folsom Boulevard. The meeting purpose was to gather input and comments from the public on the proposed project and to determine any consensus on whether an undercrossing or overcrossing was the preferred option based on existing constraints. At the community workshop, staff presented both under and overcrossing alternatives and input from the attendees was mixed. The main concern with an

undercrossing was the required maintenance, the potential for flooding and the confined space, while the longer ramps associated with the overcrossing was a negative feature brought up by some attendees. Overall, the response received was in favor of an overcrossing as some felt an undercrossing presented security concerns and would require more maintenance.

On June 5, 2018, Parks and Recreation Department staff presented the project to the Parks and Recreation Commission and based mainly on security concerns associated with an undercrossing, the commission voted 6-1 in favor of an overcrossing. They felt an overcrossing would provide better visibility for the trail user and would require less maintenance and not be subject to flooding like the undercrossing would with its proximity to Willow Creek.

Parks and Recreation Department staff is requesting approval from City Council to apply for Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Grant Program funds to conduct a feasibility study to determine the most appropriate location for a trail overcrossing at Folsom Boulevard to connect the Humbug-Willow Creek Parkway Trail with the Lake Natoma Bike Path and American River Trails.

### **POLICY / RULE**

The California Department of Transportation requires the applicant's governing body to certify by resolution the approval of the application before submission and commitment of matching funds.

### **ANALYSIS**

The crossing of Folsom Boulevard at the Humbug-Willow Creek Parkway has been a long-term goal and is identified in both the Humbug-Willow Creek Parkway Master Plan and the adopted Folsom Bikeway Master Plan. The feasibility study would examine a couple of overcrossing locations along Folsom Boulevard between the Glenn SacRT light rail station and Blue Ravine Road. The Humbug-Willow Creek Parkway has experienced a steady increase in use over the years, including during the pandemic, and a safe and more convenient crossing of Folsom Boulevard has become even more important. Under the current condition, trail users must cross at-grade at either the traffic signal at Parkshore Drive or at Blue Ravine Road. In addition to having to cross Folsom Boulevard, they also must cross the active light rail line.

Parks and Recreation Department staff is planning to seek funding from Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for a Folsom Boulevard overcrossing feasibility study. An overcrossing was the recommended option by the Parks and Recreation Commission and was the general consensus from comments received from attendees at the public workshop for the project. If the City Council elects not to authorize submission of a grant in this round the next opportunity will be in 2022.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The total grant funding being requested is \$177,060. This grant application requires an 11.47% match from a non-federal source. The total match for this project would be \$22,940. The total project budget would be \$200,000 (\$177,060 + \$22,940).

Staff recommends that the City designate \$22,940 in matching funds to be utilized from the Transportation System Management Fund (Fund 206). These funds would not need to be appropriated until Fiscal Year 2021-22 and based on the current balance and projections through Fiscal Year 2020-21; Fund206 will have sufficient funds for the required match.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) only applies to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The requested action is not considered a project under CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3).

**ATTACHMENT**

Resolution No. 10587 – A Resolution Approving the Application for Grant Funds from the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for the Folsom Boulevard Overcrossing Feasibility Study Project

Submitted,

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Lorraine Poggione,  
Parks and Recreation Department Director

**RESOLUTION NO. 10587**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALTRANS SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FOLSOM BOULEVARD OVERCROSSING FEASIBILITY STUDY PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, in January 2021, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) released a Request for Project Applications for the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants; and

**WHEREAS**, up to \$9.5 million in State and federal grants and \$25 million in Senate Bill 1 (SB1), the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, were made available for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022 grant cycle; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Folsom proposes to apply for funds to conduct a feasibility study for the Folsom Boulevard Overcrossing Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the total grant funding requested is \$177,060 for a total project budget of \$200,000 (\$177,060 + \$22,940 city match); and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Folsom hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program.
2. Certifies that said applicant has or will have available prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project.
3. Appoints the Parks and Recreation Department Director, as agent of the City of Folsom to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.
4. Approves the use of grant matching funds in the amount of \$22,940 to be utilized from the Transportation System Management Fund (Fund 206).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021, by the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Council Member(s):  
**NOES:** Council Member(s):  
**ABSENT:** Council Member(s):  
**ABSTAIN:** Council Member(s):

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Michael D. Kozlowski, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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Christa Freemantle, CITY CLERK