

## AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: June 13, 2023

Subject OBAG3 Grant Funding for N. San Antonio Rd Complete Streets Project

Prepared by:Marisa Lee, Transportation Services ManagerReviewed by:James Sandoval, Public Works DirectorApproved by:Gabriel Engeland, City Manager

### Attachment(s):

1. Resolution of Local Support

### Initiated by:

Staff

### **Previous Council Consideration:**

This project was ranked the number one priority bicycle project in the City's Complete Streets Master Plan, which was discussed at the following City Council meetings:

- Complete Streets Master Plan Study Session #1, November 9, 2021
- Complete Streets Master Plan Study Session #2, March 22, 2022
- Complete Streets Master Plan Unanimous Adoption on October 25, 2022

## **Fiscal Impact**:

Accepting this project will result in receiving a grant award of \$7,298,096 and City expenditure of \$1,824,524 in local match for delivery of a Capital Improvement Project totaling \$9,122,620.

- Breakdown of funds to be used:
  - \$7,298,096 OBAG3 Grant
  - \$280,000 Traffic Impact Fees (City match for design in FY 23/24)
  - o \$1,544,524 General Fund (City match for construction in FY 24/25
- Amount already included in approved budget: N
- Amount above budget requested: 0

## **Environmental Review**:

The project is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) in that the project consists of

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## Subject: OBAG3 Funding for N. San Antonio Rd Complete Streets Project

minor alterations to existing public facilities involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former uses, it will not create additional automobile lanes, and none of the circumstances described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies. Section 15301 expressly applies to the creation or expansion of bicycle facilities within existing rights-of-way where no additional automobile lanes are created. See 14 CCR § 15301(c).

# **Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:**

• Does the Council support delivery of a \$9,122,620 mobility-enhancing multi-modal streetscape project along N. San Antonio Rd – ranked as the top priority bike infrastructure improvement in the Complete Streets Master Plan -- by approving the local match of \$1,824,524?

### Summary:

- Class IV bikeway facility along N. San Antonio Rd was ranked the #1 priority bike infrastructure improvement by the Complete Streets Master Plan process.
- \$7,298,096 is the largest grant award to be secured by the City of Los Altos.
- The project is an opportunity for a transformative mobility-enhancing project that would have significant bicycle and pedestrian safety impacts, bridge key gaps in the existing network, and set a precedent for the region.

## Purpose

To approve a local match for a transformative mobility project that would have safety impacts on a local and regional level.

## Background

The City of Los Altos relies heavily upon grant funding to implement many of our priority transportation projects.

The following outside funds are anticipated in FY-2023/24:

- \$902,857 Highway Users Tax Account (Gas Tax)
- \$782,816 CA Transportation Commission SB1 Local Streets and Roads Program
- \$675,000 VTA Measure B Local Streets and Roads Maintenance Program
- \$24,851 VTA Measure B Bicycle & Pedestrian Education & Encouragement Program
- \$180,000 Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF)
- \$25,432 Metropolitan Transportation Commission Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3

## Discussion/Analysis



## Subject: OBAG3 Funding for N. San Antonio Rd Complete Streets Project

The One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) guides how the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) distributes federal transportation funding from the Federal Highway Administration to projects and programs that improve safety, spur economic development and help the Bay Area meet climate change and air quality improvement goals. The third round of One Bay Area grant funding (OBAG3) was adopted by MTC in January 2022 and included more than \$750M in federal funding for projects from 2023 to 2026.

The N. San Antonio corridor currently represents a significant barrier to safe travel for people walking, biking, or rolling. The corridor connects many key destinations including commercial districts, residential areas, civic spaces, downtown, the library, the newly constructed community center, City Hall, countless local businesses and restaurants, several local schools, Caltrain, and transit corridors along El Camino Real. The corridor is a suggested route to school for two public schools in Los Altos, as well as one of the few north-south corridors that traverses the entire city. The proposed streetscape improvements would employ best practice street design principles to create designated space for each mode, separating pedestrians and cyclists from motor vehicle traffic, reducing conflicts between vulnerable road users and vehicles. This improvement project would facilitate a safer experience for these vulnerable roadway users and would provide a connection where a gap currently exists.

The project includes:

- Class IV protected bikeways
- Improved integration between transit and bicycle lanes
- Median landscaping
- High visibility crosswalks
- Pedestrian enhancements
- Median reconstruction

This project supports the following Federal Performance Goals:

• Safety – significantly reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries for all users on public roads and improve the safety of all public transportation systems

This project supports the following Plan Bay Area 2050 Strategies:

- Restore, operate, and maintain the existing system
- Build a complete streets network
- Advance regional Vision Zero policy through street design and reduced speeds

This project aligns with the following regional plans and policies:

- MTC's Regional Safety/Vision Zero Policy
- MTC's Equity Platform



Subject: OBAG3 Funding for N. San Antonio Rd Complete Streets Project

- Regional Active Transportation Plan
- MTC's Transit Oriented Communities Policy

This project was ranked as the #1 priority bicycle infrastructure project by Los Altos Complete Streets Master Plan, adopted by City Council in 2022. Prioritization was based on the vision and ranking criteria developed through months of community outreach, stakeholder outreach, and Complete Streets Commission discussion. The City received many requests and wishes to be able to more safely bike and walk to the destinations along N. San Antonio Rd, including the library, community center, and local businesses and restaurants. Some comments from residents included:

-"The existing Class II bike lanes north and south on high-speed San Antonio Road are inadequate and discourage bicycle commuting."

-"Need safer biking path to / from Caltrain Station alongside San Antonio Rd."

This project received strong support from the Environmental Commission, who requested that N. San Antonio be upgraded in the CSMP from Class II Bike Lanes to Class IV Protected Bikeways during their review process. The Complete Streets Commission strongly supported the upgrade from Class II to Class IV, and strongly encouraged Staff to pursue grant funding for this project. The Complete Streets Commission received an update from Staff on this project and grant award in January 2023, again expressing support for the project and support for Council's approval of the local match to deliver the project.

#### Recommendation

The staff recommends the City Council adopt a resolution of local support that authorizes staff to file an application for funding assigned to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, commits necessary matching funds from the City, and states assurance to MTC that the City will complete the N. San Antonio Rd. Complete Streets Project.