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Agenda Item # \_\_\_\_

### AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

**Meeting Date:** June 27, 2023

**Subject:** Transportation Development Act (TDA) Funding Allocation to Hetch Hetchy Pathway Enhancements and Access Improvements Project

**Prepared by:** Marisa Lee, Transportation Manager

**Reviewed by:** Jim Sandoval, Public Works Director

**Approved by:** Gabriel Engeland, City Manager

**Attachment(s):**

Resolution 2023-XXXX: Los Altos Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Funds

**Initiated by:** Staff

**Previous Council Consideration:** None

**Environmental Review:**

The adoption of the resolution is categorically exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities), in that Section 15301(c) provides an exemption for operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing rights of way involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The adoption of the proposed resolution will facilitate funding for ordinary street maintenance, and none of the circumstances set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Allocation of the City’s available banked TDA funds (\$104,302 from FYs 20/21 – 22/23) and our FY 23/24 available funds (\$25,432) are being applied to the construction of the Hetch Hetchy Path Enhancements and Access Improvements. This total amount of \$129,734 would cover the cost of construction. As part of the approved FY 2023-24 CIP budget, the City allocated the \$129,734 in TDA funds to the Intersection Access Barrier Removal Project (TS-01058). The City will be able to send project invoices to the Valley Transportation Agency (VTA)<sup>1</sup> to receive the TDA funds no sooner than December 2023.

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

None

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<sup>1</sup> The VTA serves as the countywide agent coordinating fund reimbursement on behalf of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

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**Reviewed By:**

City Manager

City Attorney

Finance Director

GE

JH

JD

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**Summary:**

Staff recommends allocation of the City’s TDA funding to the Intersection Access Barrier Removal Project (TS-01058) via the attached resolution. The work on TS-01058 in FY 23/24 will include the Hetch Hetchy Path Enhancements and Access Improvements.

**Background**

Funding Source

Article 3 of the Transportation Development Act (TDA), Public Utilities Code (PUC) Section 99200 et seq., authorizes the submission of claims to a regional transportation planning agency for the funding of projects exclusively for the benefit and/or use of pedestrians and bicyclists. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), as the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay region, has adopted MTC Resolution No. 4108, Revised, entitled “Transportation Development Act, Article 3, Pedestrian/Bicycle Projects,” which delineates procedures and criteria for submission of requests for the allocation of “TDA Article 3” funding.

Project

The Hetch Hetchy Pathway is a paved bicycle and pedestrian multi-use path that traverses a small portion of Los Altos city limits and provides a connection to the Los Altos-Palo Alto Bike Path and Arastradero Road. The trail is San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (PUC) right-of-way and provides PUC and the City access for maintenance vehicles. The current path crossings at Estrellita Way and Los Altos Avenue do not meet current ADA requirements due to their age. The City would like to reconstruct these crossings to meet ADA requirements and to enhance this connector. This project provides the opportunity to add additional features at both crossings for bicycles, pedestrians, and drivers.

The Complete Streets Commission (CSC) discussed this project at their January 2022 meeting and received an array of potential alternatives for crossing enhancement features including signage, striping, bollards, and speed control measures. Proposed alternatives were based on precedent research done by Staff which included best practice pathway design based on NACTO and FHWA guidelines, as well as pathway design in neighboring cities.

The CSC and the public provided comments on their preferences for the various features at each crossing location. Staff incorporated this feedback into the plan and returned the updated plan to the CSC in March of 2022. Staff have since presented the updated plans to San Francisco PUC Project Review Committee and received positive feedback, then submitted updated plans and the permit application to San Francisco PUC. The PUC has delayed the permit until the City and



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PUC are in alignment with the provisions of an updated maintenance agreement between the two agencies. Staff expects the permit from them soon so we can bid out the project.

**Discussion/Analysis**

The City is eligible for roughly \$30,000 per year in TDA funding, with the option each year to either bank funds or program them to a project. After several years of banking, the City now has \$129,734 available. Staff recommends programming this balance to the Hetch Hetchy Pathway Enhancements and Access Improvements project for planned project delivery in FY23-24.

**Recommendation**

Approve the resolution to program \$129,734 in TDA funds to the Intersection Access Barrier Removal Project (TS-01058) to fund construction of the Hetch Hetchy Pathway Enhancements and Access Improvements Project.