



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 10/01/2019

ITEM NO: 4

DATE: September 20, 2019
TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Winchester Boulevard Complete Streets - Authorize the Town Manager to:
a. Issue a Request for Proposals for Conceptual Design of Winchester Boulevard Complete Streets Improvements.
b. Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of an Application in the Vehicle Trip Reduction Program Managed by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for the Winchester Boulevard Class IV Protected Bike Lanes Project between Blossom Hill Road and Albright Way

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Town Manager to:

- a. Issue a request for proposals for conceptual design of Winchester Boulevard Complete Streets Improvements.
- b. Adopt a resolution authorizing the submittal of an application in the Vehicle Trip Reduction Program managed by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for the Winchester Boulevard Class IV Protected Bike Lanes Project between Blossom Hill Road and Albright Way.

BACKGROUND:

Winchester Boulevard is a major arterial street parallel to Highway 17, which borders both the Town of Los Gatos and the City of Monte Sereno. Winchester Boulevard currently has intermittent sections of bicycle and pedestrian facilities north of Albright Way to the Town limits of Knowles Drive and Division Street. South of Albright Way to Shelburne Way, the street contains two travel lanes in each direction, sidewalks, and Class II bike lanes on both sides. Between Shelburne and Blossom Hill, the street is narrower and includes three travel lanes, limited on-street parking, and sidewalks.

PREPARED BY: YING SMITH
Transportation and Mobility Manager

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, Finance Director, and Parks and Public Works Director

BACKGROUND (continued):

The Los Gatos Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) identifies the construction of Class IV bike lanes along Winchester Boulevard as improvement projects. At its June 6, 2019 meeting, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) discussed the opportunity for conceptual engineering design of the entire length of Winchester Boulevard in Los Gatos to make it a Complete Street for multiple modes of travel. The conceptual engineering is the first step towards shovel ready construction projects, which would increase the Town's grant eligibility. The BPAC voted to support staff's recommendation to begin the Winchester Complete Streets design work from Blossom Hill Road to the Town's northern limits.

Additionally, staff applied for funding through the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District)'s Vehicle Trip Reduction Program for a Class IV bikeway project between Blossom Hill Road and Albright Way. This project meets one of the grant categories of Class-I or Class-IV bikeway projects that encourage a shift to cycling as an alternative to driving.

DISCUSSION:

Despite the Class II bike lanes and sidewalks that currently exist, Winchester Boulevard is considered a high stress street for bicyclists and pedestrians due to the high speed and the high volume of automobile traffic. Complete Streets treatments, including enhanced bike lanes, pedestrian crossings, sidewalk improvements, pedestrian refuge islands, landscaped medians, and intersection modifications would provide for an enhanced multi-modal experience.

The best practice in delivering Complete Streets projects at this scale is to complete them in phases and to spread costs over time. Staff recommends completing a conceptual design for the entire corridor to help identify and cost the incremental phases of work. In addition, the conceptual design would further the development of shovel-ready project elements, facilitating the search for alternative funding.

After reviewing the Air District's grant program requirements and criteria as well as the priority projects in the Town's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP), staff submitted a grant application for the Winchester Boulevard Class IV Protected Bike Lanes project for submittal. If funded, the Class IV protected bike lanes would be one of the first Complete Streets improvements that the Town would implement over time on Winchester Boulevard. The Town also received a letter of support from the City of Monte Sereno.

The Air District requires a resolution from the Town Council within 30 days of application submittal that authorizes the application and commits to providing all necessary matching funds. Staff submitted the application contingent on Council adoption of the resolution for an

PAGE 3 OF 3

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DISCUSSION (continued):

amount of \$785,960 (80% of construction cost. The final grant amount will be determined by the Air District's cost effectiveness calculations.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends issuing a Request for Proposals for the selection of a consultant to prepare a conceptual design of the Complete Streets improvements for the entire Winchester corridor in Los Gatos and adoption of the resolution authorizing submittal of the grant application for the Class IV protected bike lanes on Winchester Boulevard between Blossom Hill Road and Albright Way.

COORDINATION:

This report was coordinated with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission and City of Monte Sereno staff.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of the recommended actions. If the grant application is awarded, the Council will have the opportunity to review the funding agreement to accept the grant funds.

Project #813-0218 Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements in the Fiscal Year 2019/20 Capital Improvement Program Budget has sufficient funds for the design work and the local match for the Class IV Protected Bike Lanes project. Staff would return to the Council for award of the design contract that results from the RFP. If the Town receives the grant, the Council would need to accept the grant and recognize the revenue.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The construction of improvements is a project as defined under CEQA but is Categorical Exempt, Section 15064.3 (2). A Notice of Exemption was filed on September 5, 2019.

Attachments:

1. Draft RFP with Attachments A (scope of services) and B (sample contract)
2. Resolution authorizing application for grant funds