



# City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

CITY COUNCIL    NPUA    HACN

Regular    Special

**Meeting Date:** June 9, 2026

**Title:** Approve Resolution No. 2026-22 Authorizing Submittal of an Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 8 Needles Multimodal Loop Grant Application

**Background:** The Needles Multimodal Loop Project – Phase 1 will deliver the City’s first dedicated bicycle facilities, establishing the groundwork for a robust, safe, comfortable, and connected multimodal network connecting residents to key destinations via walking and bicycling. The project has appeared in regional and local planning documents for 15 years and is ready for implementation.

The project includes one-way and two-way Class IV bikeways, sidewalk gap closures, and pedestrian enhancements (including mid-block crossings, curb extensions, and RRFBs) along J Street, Bailey Avenue, and Lillyhill Drive. These improvements will provide connectivity at two locations across I-40, which divides the city and limits safe access between disadvantaged neighborhoods and essential services. The project provides a low-stress loop around the city, with direct connections to an elementary school, two parks, the recreation center, medical services, the library, two churches, and almost half of the bus stops in the city. It will also provide meaningful connections to the other three schools in the city via low-speed, low-volume residential roadways. The project is designed to address documented pedestrian and bicycle collision history within the corridor by reducing exposure to vehicle traffic, improving visibility, and providing protected crossings in high-activity locations.

The project builds on extensive public outreach conducted as part of the City’s Active Transportation Plan, including workshops, surveys, student listening sessions, a transit ride-along, and a bike rodeo. This project emerged as one of the highest-priority and most supported investments, reflecting strong community demand for safer, more accessible active transportation options.

With the implementation of the City’s first bikeway project, the City and its partners are committed to supporting the improvements through ongoing safety education programs focused on safe walking and bicycling and outreach events to solicit feedback from the community on the design. Outreach will be facilitated with committed regional partners, such as SBCTA, the County Health Department, the County Sheriff’s Department, Needles Unified School District, and St. Vincent de Paul, to promote traffic safety and encourage healthy, active lifestyles for residents of all ages and abilities.

**Fiscal Impact:** Approval of the resolution authorizes submission of an ATP Cycle 8 grant application seeking approximately **\$13 million to \$14 million** in grant funding. No local matching funds are required for the application.

**Environmental Impact:** If funded and constructed, the project is expected to support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging walking and bicycling while improving safety and mobility for non-motorized users throughout the community.

**Recommended Action:** Adopt Resolution No. 2026-22 authorizing the submission of an Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 8 grant application for the Needles Multimodal Loop Project Phase 1.

**Submitted By:** Rainie Torrance, Utility Manager

**City Manager Approval:** Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 6/3/2026

**Other Department Approval (when required):** \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_