

Agenda: March 1, 2007

To: Regional Transportation Commission
From: Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner
Re: City of Santa Cruz TDA Article 8 Claim

RECOMMENDATION

The Bicycle Committee, the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and staff recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve the attached resolution (Attachment 1) approving the City of Santa Cruz's FY 2006/2007 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 8 allocation requests for \$126,000 and an additional \$18,364 (Exhibits 1 and 2 to Attachment 1) for the bicycle and pedestrian projects.

BACKGROUND

Each year the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) allocates Article 8 Transportation Development Account (TDA) funds to local jurisdictions for bikeway and pedestrian projects. TDA funds allocated to local jurisdictions may be rolled over from one fiscal year to the next. Allocation requests for bicycle facilities must be reviewed by the Bicycle Advisory Committee and requests with pedestrian components must be reviewed by the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee prior to approval by the Regional Transportation Commission. According to the RTC Rules and Regulations, only Commissioners representing the County and the Cities are eligible to vote on Article 8 allocation requests.

DISCUSSION

Exhibit 1 is a letter from City of Santa Cruz Public Works requesting a \$126,000 allocation in TDA Article 8 funds for the following bicycle and pedestrian improvement projects:

- **Bikeway Striping and Minor Improvements: \$15,000** for annual re-striping of the City's 30 miles of bikeways, maintenance of bikeways and minor bikeway improvements.
- **Bicycle Parking Program: \$1,000** for bicycle parking facilities and improvements at high use areas.
- **San Lorenzo River Trestle Bridge Connection: \$60,000** for a local match to construct a pedestrian ramp from the Union Pacific Railroad Trestle over the San Lorenzo River at the west end, connecting the walkway that the City maintains to the Riverway path and the Beach Street bikeway.
- **West Cliff Drive Path Repaving: \$50,000** to supplement a previous allocation of \$106,151.81 for repaving of the West Cliff Drive path. The supplemental funds are needed because of rising paving costs.

Exhibit 2 is a letter from the City of Santa Cruz requesting additional TDA funds in the amount of **\$18,364 to fill the remaining funding gap for the DeLaveaga Neighborhood Sidewalk Improvement Project**

The City of Santa Cruz has adequate funds in its TDA balance for this claim.

Bicycle Committee Review

At its December 11, 2006 meeting, the Bicycle Committee reviewed the City of Santa Cruz's \$126,000 allocation request and recommended that the Commission approve the TDA claim. The Bicycle Committee took the opportunity to reiterate its hope that the City of Santa Cruz reconsider a centerline stripe as part of the West Cliff Drive Path repaving project. The Bicycle Committee requested that a centerline stripe be added to the project when it recommended approval of the City's first allocation request in September 2002 for \$106,151.81 for this project. The RTC at that time, approved the TDA allocation request without imposing the condition requested by the Bicycle Committee. While the Bicycle Committee is not recommending this condition be placed again, it is requesting that the City reconsider its opposition to a centerline stripe.

Because the DeLaveaga Neighborhood Sidewalk Improvement Project does not contain bicycling elements, staff did not take the supplemental request to the Bicycle Committee for review.

Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) Review

Both allocation requests were reviewed by the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee on February 13th. After review of all projects, the E&D TAC recommended that the Commission approve both allocation requests but encouraged the City to consider additional entry points to the ramp and therefore maximize access to the San Lorenzo River Trestle Bridge path connecting the Union Pacific walkway that the City maintains to the riverway path and the Beach Street bikeway.

The Bicycle Committee, the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and staff recommend that the Commission approve the City of Santa Cruz TDA Article 8 allocation requests for \$126,000 (Exhibit 1) and \$18,364 (Exhibit 2) for a total of \$144,364. All projects are consistent with the *2005 Regional Transportation Plan* and will be maintained by the City for 20 years.

SUMMARY

The City of Santa Cruz submitted allocation requests for \$126,000 and \$18,364 for TDA Article 8 funds for bicycle and pedestrian improvement projects. The Bicycle Committee, the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee and staff recommend that the Commission approve the City of Santa Cruz's allocation requests.

Attachment 1: Resolution

Exhibit 1: FY2006/07 TDA Article 8 Allocation Request from the City of Santa Cruz

Exhibit 2: Additional FY2006/07 TDA Request from the City of Santa Cruz

Attachment 2: San Lorenzo River Trestle Bridge Connection – Project Information

Attachment 3: DeLaveaga Neighborhood Sidewalks – Project Information