

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: September 20, 2010

Reviewed by: *JRL*

SUBJECT: Filing of an application for Surface Transportation Program (STP) for the Pierce Street Pavement Rehabilitation Project

REPORT BY: Randy Leptien, City Engineer
Aleida Andrino-Chavez, Transportation Planner

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve Resolution No. 2010-46 authorizing the filing of an application for Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding for the Pierce Street Pavement Rehabilitation Project. By filing this application, the City will be committing the necessary non-federal match, and stating assurance to complete the project.

BACKGROUND

In April, 2010, the City submitted an application for the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency Block Grant-Local Streets and Roads (LSR) for the rehabilitation of the pavement of Solano Avenue for the segment located between Masonic Avenue (east of BART right of way) and the Berkeley City Limits. Alameda County proposed the use of a four factor formula for the distribution of the LSR funds under the Block Grant program. These factors include: Population, lane mileage, shortfall amount, and preventive maintenance performance. As a result, the amount for which the City could apply is limited to \$117,000, which is approximately 8% of the total cost of the Solano Avenue construction.

Because of the limited amount of funding, staff was forced to consider a significantly reduced project scope. In the alternative, staff asked the CMA staff whether the funds could be used to help fill the funding gap of another paving project such as the Pierce Street Paving Rehabilitation project. The response was positive. Therefore staff proposes that the application be revised to apply toward the Pierce Street project.

DISCUSSION

Funds for the LSR grant are generated from the Surface Transportation Program (STP), which is a federal source. Staff has requested funding allocation for this project in Fiscal Year 2010/11, which translates into having an “authorization to build” from Caltrans by February, 2011. Staff hopes to start construction on this project in spring 2011.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

Studies have shown that a smoother pavement surface results in better gas mileage of vehicles and therefore, less air pollution. In addition, the Pierce Street pavement rehabilitation will be built in conjunction with the bicycle and pedestrian path along the 500 block of Pierce. Installing the bicycle path and curb ramp improvements will increase safety and encourage more pedestrian and bicycle use in the area, thereby contributing to decreased GHG emissions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated construction cost for implementing the Pierce Street Paving Rehab Project is \$1,205,800. Other funding sources, which are part of the City's match for this grant, include Proposition 1B, Local Street and Roads (CMA TIP), Measure F 2002, and Community Development Block Grant. If the City is successful in receiving the \$117,000, it will help offset the use of City Measure F funds.

Attachments

1. Exhibit A: Resolution No. 2010-46