

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

Agenda Date: March 5, 2012
Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2012-13 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) Master Programs Funding Agreement

REPORT BY: Jeff Bond, Community Development Director
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve Resolution No. 2012-13 authorizing the City Manager to execute the Alameda County Transportation Commission Master Programs Funding Agreement.

BACKGROUND

In November 2000, Alameda County voters approved Measure B, a ½ cent sales tax to be used for transportation projects in the County. At that time, a 10-year agreement was executed with the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) for the City to receive Measure B “pass-through funds” starting in 2002 for three types of programs: bicycle and pedestrian, local streets and roads, and para-transit. The City’s agreement expires March, 2012.

In addition to Measure B, in November 2010, voters approved Measure F, a \$10 per year vehicle registration fee in Alameda County (VRF), which is estimated to generate about \$11 million per year. The goal of the VRF program is to sustain the transportation network, reduce traffic congestion and emissions resulting from transportation sources in the County. Alameda CTC will distribute these funds to four main types of programs: local streets and roads (60%); transit for congestion relief (24%), local transportation technology (10%); and bicycle/pedestrian Access and Safety Program (5%).

An extension and increase in Measure B sales tax is proposed for the November 2012 ballot (separate agenda item). The proposed Master Agreement is required for the existing Measure B tax, and thus is required irrespective of the outcome of the ballot measure this November.

DISCUSSION

The proposed Master Programs Funding Agreement is a standard form agreement prepared by ACTC for all municipalities and agencies that are eligible to receive Measure B and

VRF funds. The new agreement will serve as the contract for distribution and receipt of current Measure B transportation sales tax revenues and new VRF revenues.

Implementation Guidelines are attached to the agreement, and specify the requirements that the City must follow in the use of Measure B and VRF funds. The guidelines are incorporated by reference in the Master Programs Funding Agreement to allow the Commission to update them during the term of the Master Agreement in order to allow flexibility to address policy, legislative, or other issues as they arise over time. It should be noted that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Implementation Guidelines require the city to adopt a Complete Streets Policy by June 30, 2013.

Alameda CTC has reviewed the proposed Implementation Guidelines with the appropriate Alameda CTC Committees that provide oversight on various activities. On December 16, the Alameda County Transportation Commission adopted the final MPFA and Implementation Guidelines.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

Measure B is an important source of funds currently available to the City to implement transportation-related improvements identified in the City's Climate Action Plan and Active Transportation Plan and to use as part of the match required for grant-funded projects. The new VRF represents another important source of funding for the City to decrease congestion and emissions from transportation sources and to maintain the existing transportation network.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Currently the City receives an average of \$359,000 per year in funding from Measure B for Para-transit, Local Streets and Roads, and Bicycle and Pedestrian programs. The VRF is estimated to generate \$ 60,000 per year for Local Streets and Roads for the City. The Local Transportation Technology Program will be used for county wide Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) projects with priority given to ongoing operations (e.g. SMART corridors). The Bicycle and Pedestrian Access and Safety Program is a discretionary program and a competitive process similar to that of the existing Measure B will be followed for fund allocation. Execution of the Master Program Funding Agreement prior to March 31, 2012, will allow an uninterrupted flow of transportation funds to the City from Measure B and an increase in funding as a result of voter approval of the VRF and its associated funding.

Attachments

1. Draft Resolution No. 2012-13
2. Master Agreement and Implementation Guidelines