

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

Agenda date: October 4, 2021  
Reviewed by: NA

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to Accept & Appropriate Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan Grant Funding for Phase IV of the Codornices Creek Restoration Project (CIP No. 43001)

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**SUMMARY**

The City of Albany has been awarded grant funding in the amount of \$826,000 as part of the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan. Staff recommends Council accept and appropriate the grant funding and authorize staff to administer the grant.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council adopt Resolution No. 2021-97:

1. Accepting grant funding in the amount of \$826,000 programmed by ACTC for Phase IV of the Codornices Creek Restoration Project (CIP No. 43001) through the Alameda County Transportation Commission 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan; and
2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the grant agreement with ACTC; and
3. Appropriating the grant funding towards the project, which will be provided to the City on a reimbursement basis for work performed.

**BACKGROUND**

On December 21, 2020, City Council authorized staff to submit an application for funding consideration as part of the ACTC 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan. The project selected and approved for submission was Phase IV of the Codornices Creek Restoration Project (Resolution No. 2020-123).

Three phases of the Codornices Creek Restoration Project have been completed, creating and restoring riparian habitats for native Steelhead Trout and improving community resilience by reducing exposure to flooding at UC Village student housing. In addition, a bicycle-pedestrian shared use trail has been constructed that connects to local and regional bicycle trail networks,

and provides recreational, educational and stewardship opportunities. The Phase IV project includes a bicycle and pedestrian shared-use path from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street, a crossing at 8<sup>th</sup> Street to link to the Phase III project, and vegetation improvements along this segment.

This project was recommended by the Transportation Commission for submission and generally deemed to be the most competitive for the program, as it had significant matching funds already identified through Albany’s recently adopted Capital Improvement Plan, a completed design, is cross-jurisdictional, and is a connection point of countywide significance (linking the Ohlone Greenway to the Berkeley 9<sup>th</sup> Street Bicycle Boulevard and the future Gilman Street bike/ped crossing of I-80). The project has strong stakeholder support and was supported in the application by Albany Strollers and Rollers, the City of Berkeley, the UC Village Residents Association, and the Albany Little League.

Beginning in early 2018, staff from the cities of Albany and Berkeley, along with UC Berkeley, have been meeting on a regular basis and reviewing the conditions under the shared Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for necessary practices in maintenance and improvement of the Codornices Creek. The group has developed plans and budget for this work, and Albany is currently engaged with Urban Tilth, a local organization based in Richmond, to perform regular vegetation management and maintenance along the creek site (See Resolution No. 2021-24).

The project plans for Phase IV, designed by Restoration Design Group in partnership with staff and approved by the Transportation and Parks, Rec & Open Space Commissions, were accepted by the City Council on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (Resolution No. 2019-86).

**DISCUSSION**

In late July 2021, the Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee (ACTAC) provided a recommendation to ACTC to approve the proposed 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan, which included allocating \$53.2M in new programming and allocation recommendations from available funding sources. ACTC has approved the 2022 Comprehensive Investment Plan, and staff has been working with ACTC to coordinate the grant agreement materials.

Albany’s “Lower Codornices Creek Restoration Project Phase IV” has been allocated ACTC-administered funding as follows:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Measure B (Bike & Ped)	\$741,000
TFCA	\$85,000
Total Awarded	<b>\$826,000</b>

This project was designated as a priority in the City’s Capital Improvement Plan, with the caveat that the project had a funding gap that needed to be addressed before implementation was possible. Acceptance of this grant addresses the funding gap and allows staff to incorporate the project into future Capital Improvement Program scheduling as staffing availability permits.

## **CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES**

Accepting the awarded grant and authorizing related expenditures continues to further the City Council’s 2021-2022 Strategic Plan as follows:

### **Goal 1: Foster a Healthy and Sustainable Urban Village**

#### *Objective 3: Promote Active Transportation and Safety*

As mentioned above, the shared-use bicycle and pedestrian path is an essential link between the Ohlone Greenway, the Berkeley 9<sup>th</sup> Street Bicycle Boulevard and the future Gilman Street bike/ped crossing of I-80.

### **Goal 3: Maximize and Improve Parks and Open Space**

#### *Objective 2: Enhance Open Space*

All aspects of this project will increase access and enhance the landscape to this natural resource within Albany’s city limits.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

A local match was not required for Albany projects applying for this funding, but improved the competitiveness of our application. Matching funds for this project were identified and appropriated in the Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal years 2019/20 through 2023/24, adopted in November 2020 (Resolution No. 2020-108). The funding makeup of this project is a combination of transportation and creek restoration funds, as is appropriate to the nature of the project.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Type</b>
Measure B (Fund 1204)	\$726,000	ACTC Grant
TFCA (Fund 1106)	\$85,000	ACTC Grant
Measure R – Creek Restoration Capital Improvements (Fund 2304)	\$620,000	Local Funds
<b>Total Appropriated Funds:</b>	<b>\$1,446,000</b>	

The grant award will be administered on a reimbursement basis for project expenditures incurred. This project will exhaust the remaining Measure R funds allocated to capital creek restoration projects.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution No. 2021-97



