

MOTION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Improving the daily commuter safety of grade school students is a top priority throughout the City of Los Angeles. The City's participation in programs like Safe Routes to Schools is an opportunity to make walking and bicycling to school safer and more accessible for children and their parents, including those with disabilities, and to increase the number of children who choose to walk and bicycle. Safe Routes to School programs also serve to enhance the health and well-being of children, help ease traffic congestion around schools, and improve air quality. These types of improvements are essential because improved safety of walking and bicycling to school makes these modes of transportation more attractive, with the added benefit of improving the quality of life of the surrounding community.

Union Avenue Elementary School in Council District 13 has been identified by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) as being among the top 50 schools most in need of commuter safety improvements. In September 2018, LADOT will initiate a Safe Routes to School plan development that begins with a Walking Safety Assessment around the school neighborhood to identify barriers and challenges for students walking and biking to/from school and propose possible solutions. City engineers incorporate the feedback received from the Walking Safety Assessment into the design of street improvements and safety education. This may include crosswalk enhancements, speed bumps, traffic signals, and safety patrols that will be included in a conceptual plan of recommended street safety improvements to be reviewed by the Council Office, LADOT, Bureau of Engineering, Bureau of Street Services, and the Los Angeles Unified School District. Funding is needed to conduct this effort and provide the mean for implementing any proposed improvements.

Funds are available to Council District 13 in taxable CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds from the Westlake Redevelopment Project Area that can help fund the Union Avenue Elementary School Safe Routes to School project. In accordance with policies adopted by Council (C.F. 14-1174) related to the CRA/LA Bond Expenditure Agreement and Bond Spending Plan, any proposal to expend CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds shall be initiated by Council Motion. Proposals will be reviewed by the CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee, Economic Development Committee, and any other applicable committee with final recommendations presented to the Council and Mayor for final consideration and approval. The use of taxable CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds towards a Safe Routes to School project in the Westlake Redevelopment Project Area is identified as eligible expenses in the Bond Expenditure Agreement and Bond Spending Plan.

I THEREFORE MOVE that all taxable CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds available to Council District 13 from the Westlake Redevelopment Project Area, including any earned interest, be utilized by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to assist in the implementation of the Union Avenue Elementary School Safe Routes to School project.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Economic and Workforce Development Department, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst, Department of Transportation, and any other applicable City department, provide a report with recommendations to the CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee to allocate all taxable CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds available to Council District 13, including any earned interest, for the purpose of implementing the Union Avenue Elementary School Safe Routes to School project as identified in the Bond Expenditure Agreement and Bond Spending Plan for the Westlake Redevelopment Project Area.

PRESENTED BY 
MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY 

ORIGINAL

MAY 23 2018

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