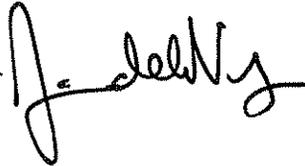


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 1, 2012

TO: Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395
Attention: Honorable Bill Rosendahl, Chair
Transportation Committee

FROM: Jaime de la Vega, General Manager
Department of Transportation



SUBJECT: **LA RIVER BIKEWAY NETWORK - TIGER IV GRANT PROPOSAL**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (DOT) bicycle program is seeking funding in the amount of \$13,000,000 from the transportation investment generating economic recovery (TIGER IV) program for an \$18,000,000 bikeway project. The project will substantively complete the Los Angeles river (LAR) bikeway network by developing a contiguous corridor of bicycle paths on the river and on-street bicycle lanes and routes in Los Angeles per the 2010 bicycle plan that will connect in Vernon to the existing Los Angeles bicycle path open, owned and maintained by the County of Los Angeles. The project will connect previously developed segments and provide a continuous bikeway network between the West Valley and the Long Beach Harbor.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager, Department of Transportation to submit the TIGER IV grant application for the LA river bikeway network and if awarded to negotiate and execute an agreement with the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) on behalf of the city, subject to approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality.

DISCUSSION

USDOT is authorized to award \$500 million in TIGER discretionary grants in 2012. This appropriation is similar to the TIGER program authorized and implemented with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Funds for the 2012 TIGER program are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, metropolitan area or region. The grant applications are to be submitted electronically no later than March 19, 2012.

The city of Los Angeles in partnership with the city of Vernon and with the support of the cities of Burbank and Glendale is seeking an award of \$13,000,000 in TIGER grant funds for an \$18,000,000 project matched with local Measure R funds that will

substantively complete the LAR Bikeway Network. The project is broken into three segments that will link existing, in construction, and funded segments of the LAR bikeway. Two of the three segments are located in the San Fernando Valley. Together with the Orange Line bicycle path these segments will fill gaps in the existing bicycle path and connect the west valley to Universal City through the neighborhoods of Canoga Park, Winnetka, Reseda, Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks, and Studio City. These segments will also create direct links to numerous schools, colleges, residential communities and economic centers. The third segment will include a network of on-street bikeways that will connect the downtown to the river and will provide a link through the city of Vernon to approximately 17 miles of existing Los Angeles river bicycle path that provides direct access via the path to the Long Beach harbor.

The Los Angeles river bikeway network project includes: 5.5 miles of bicycle path design and construction, including lighting, signage, striping, and at-grade crossing improvements; and 26 miles of on-street bikeway signage; 20 miles of intersection and traffic calming improvements; 20 miles of bicycle routes with shared lane markings; 6 miles of bicycle lanes.

COORDINATION

In the development of the project, DOT convened an interdepartmental task force for the project consisting of staff from the DOT bicycle program and grants groups; the Department of Public Works Bureaus of Engineering, Street Services and Street Lighting, City Planning and participation of staff from the trust for public land.

The project has received letters of support from : Congressman Brad Sherman; Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard; Caltrans Headquarters; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Los Angeles County Supervisor Yaroslavsky; City of Burbank; City of Glendale; City of Vernon; Downtown Neighborhood Council; Friends of the Los Angeles River; Mayor Villaraigosa; Council member Paul Krekorian; City Planning; LA River Revitalization Corporation; Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition; Los Angeles River Artists and Business Association; Save LA River Open Space; Studio City Residents Association; The Trust for Public Land; and the Village Gardeners.

FISCAL IMPACT

The project requires matching funds to leverage the federal dollars. The city will provide \$5,000,000 in local Measure R funds to leverage a \$13,000,000 investment in the city from USDOT.

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