



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: LARRY A. PATTERSON, CITY MANAGER

PREPARED BY: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEETING DATE: AUGUST 18, 2014

SUBJECT: HILLSDALE/US101 PEDESTRIAN/BIKE BRIDGE – DRAFT PROJECT STUDY REPORT-PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FEEDBACK

RECOMMENDATION

Provide feedback on the draft Project Study Report – Project Development Support (dPSR-PDS).

BACKGROUND

The Hillside/US101 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge project (Project) envisions a Class I pedestrian and bicycle grade separated crossing over Highway 101 (US101) south of the Hillside interchange and a Class II facility on Hillside from Norfolk to the San Mateo/Foster City limit. The Project would allow for safe and unimpeded pedestrian and bicyclist access to existing facilities on both sides of US101 by separating pedestrian and bicycle traffic from the high vehicular volumes at the Hillside Boulevard interchange.

Since the Project spans Caltrans' right-of-way, US101, the Project must be consistent with Caltrans' project development process, which requires a project to first receive Project Approval from Caltrans before beginning the design phase. There are two phases for this project that must be completed prior to receiving Project Approval – (1) the Project Initiation Document phase (PID phase), and (2) the Project Approval and Environmental Document phase (PA&ED phase).

Project Status to Date

In April 2013, the City entered into a cooperative agreement with Caltrans for the first phase of the project. The cooperative agreement is only applicable for the PID phase and includes the development of the Project Study Report – Project Development Support (PSR-PDS) which will act as the Project Initiation Document upon Caltrans' final approval. In October 2013, the City

selected a consultant to provide professional services for assisting with the public outreach process and coordination efforts, as well as preparing the PSR-PDS. In July 2013, the City submitted a draft PSR-PDS to Caltrans to begin Caltrans' initial eight week internal review period. Once the PSR-PDS has gained Caltrans approval, the project will be able to move into the PA&ED phase.

PSR-PDS Overview

The PSR-PDS introduces the Project by presenting background information, upcoming phases and anticipated costs, and outlines the Project's purpose and need, where the "need" identifies a transportation deficiency or problem and the "purpose" is the set of objectives that will be met to address the transportation deficiency.

The PSR-PDS also presents the Project's alignment alternatives. Since the City completed the 2007 Alignment Study, this section of the PSR-PDS presents the recommended alternative while demonstrating that all other alternatives would not meet the Project's needs.

Preparation of the PSR-PDS includes review of the project site and existing reports, studies, mapping and other information. Scoping tools are included to facilitate this review and to assist identification of additional data requirements for project scoping in the PA&ED and future phases.

Next Steps

Staff anticipates to finalize the PSR-PDS and to complete the PID phase by October 2014. Once the PID phase requirements have been met, a cooperative agreement with Caltrans for the PA&ED phase will be required to continue project development activities. The City's grant application submitted to the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA) for the PA&ED phase has been approved; a funding agreement is currently being finalized by TA Staff.

The PA&ED phase will identify the Caltrans-approved alignment and meet environmental clearance requirements. Completion of the PA&ED phase will open the gateway to begin the right-of-way phase, if applicable, and the design phase of the project.

BUDGET IMPACT

Funding for this phase of the project is provided by the San Mateo County Transit Authority (TA) through a Measure A grant in the amount of \$480,000.00 and by the City's 20% matching funds in the amount of \$120,000.00. These funds have been allocated to Project #465157, "Hillsdale/US101 Bridge Overcrossing."

A grant for the next phase of the project submitted in response to the TA's FY14/15 Call for Projects has been approved by the TA. City Council also adopted a resolution on February 3, 2014 authorizing the application submittal and the commitment of matching funds.

Future funding sources for design and construction have not been identified, but various opportunities have been outlined in the 2007 Alignment Study, including but not limited to, Recreational Trails Program, Safe Routes to School Program, Bicycle Transportation Account, Office of Traffic Safety Grants, Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program (RBPP), and San Mateo County Transportation Authority Measure A Funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3) CEQA analysis is not required for this study session, because City Council is providing feedback to Staff. However, a Preliminary Environmental Analysis Report (PEAR) has been prepared as part of this phase and included in the PSR-PDS to determine the appropriate environmental clearance document.

Appropriate CEQA/NEPA clearance documentation will be prepared as part of the next phase of the project and will also address concerns including safety and visual impact.

NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Draft Project Study Report – Project Development Support (PSR-PDS)

STAFF CONTACT

Aaron Lam, Associate Engineer
alam@cityofsanmateo.org
(650) 522-7320

Gary Heap, Engineering Services Manager
heap@cityofsanmateo.org
(650) 522-7307