



City of Emeryville

CALIFORNIA

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 16, 2018

TO: Carolyn Lehr, City Manager

FROM: Andrew Clough, Acting Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville Authorizing The City Manager To File An Application For SB 1 Transportation Corridors Enhancement Program Funding Assigned To The Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Committing Any Necessary Matching Funds, And Assuring Completion Of The Quiet Zones On 65th Street, 66th Street, And 67th Street Project

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to file an application for SB 1 Transportation Corridors Enhancement Program (TCEP) funding assigned to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), committing any necessary matching funds, and assuring completion of the Quiet Zones on 65th Street, 66th Street, and 67th Street project.

BACKGROUND

The Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (SB 1), signed into law on April 28, 2017, established the Trade Corridor Enhancement Account to fund corridor-based freight projects nominated by local agencies and the state. Implementing legislation was enacted with the approval of SB 103 on July 21, 2017 which directs the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to allocate the Trade Corridor Enhancement Account funds and the federal National Highway Freight Program funds to infrastructure improvements along corridors that have a high volume of freight movement.

Project nominations and supporting documentation must be submitted to the CTC by January 30, 2018. The Metropolitan Planning Organizations will be responsible for compiling project nominations from their respective agencies to the CTC. Each Metropolitan Planning Organization will submit a cover letter signed by the respective Executive Director. The submittal will include a full list of all nominations received and confirm consistency with an adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and if applicable, its Sustainable Communities Strategies and adopted regional freight plan. MTC is the City of Emeryville's Metropolitan Planning Organization, which will be receiving and submitting the project application and supporting document on behalf of the City.

Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is responsible for planning, funding and delivering transportation projects and programs within Alameda County. This includes the programming of federal, state, regional and local transportation funding. Staff has worked with Alameda CTC and have identified a project in the RTP to install a Quiet Zone at the at-grade railroad crossings at 65th, 66th, and 67th Streets near Shellmound Street. By being listed in the RTP, this project meets one of the eligibility requirements to be nominated by Alameda CTC and MTC in the applications for the SB 1 Transportation Corridors Enhancement Program.

DISCUSSION

There are three at-grade highway-rail crossings in Emeryville. These are at 65th, 66th, and 67th Streets, all of which cross the Union Pacific Railroad's (UPRR) Martinez Subdivision in northwestern Emeryville. The UPRR tracks are used daily by both passenger and freight trains, with passenger trains more numerous than freight trains. According to federal regulations, engineers of all these trains must sound their train horns when approaching the grade crossings. It is likely that train noise will increase as the Port of Oakland expands its freight capacity and the number of trains passing through Emeryville grows in the future.

In 2008, a Quiet Zone Feasibility Study was done to address the impacts of train horns on nearby communities and safety at the crossings. The study recommended installation of four-quadrant gates at the at-grade crossings, amongst other safety engineering improvements. Noise impacts are one of the most difficult areas of conflict between freight uses and more sensitive land uses such as residential, schools, and recreational facilities. A Quiet Zone in Emeryville would greatly reduce the scale of impacts to adjacent land uses, and is expected to have significant benefits to land use conflicts.

On December 19, 2017, City Council unanimously gave their verbal support to apply for 2018 SB 1 – TCEP funding with a project application for the Quiet Zone in Emeryville. Staff worked with Alameda CTC to use the identified project in the RTP to install a Quiet Zone at the at-grade railroad crossings on 65th, 66th, and 67th Streets in a Project Programming Request which was forwarded over to MTC for consideration for this grant program. This project is consistent with MTC's RTP and the Alameda County Goods Movement Plan, and therefore eligible to be nominated in the SB 1 Transportation Corridors Enhancement Program.

Matching requirements

Projects funded from the Trade Corridors Enhancement Program will require at least a 30% match of private, local, federal, or state funds. Alameda CTC has offered to provide the match for local agencies that are awarded a grant as part of this program. The timing for the matching funds from Alameda CTC may require the City of Emeryville to commit to the matching funds prior to reimbursement.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is \$250,000 allocated in the Capital Improvement Program budget for FY 2020/21. This allocation may need to be moved up to FY 2018/19 in order to complete the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) Phase of this project, but there are also active on-call professional services contracts that can be used to assist in the PA&ED phase of the project. Further allocations or staff resources would be needed to complete the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates phase of the project during FY 2018/19, but these costs would not be incurred until it is certain that the City has secured grant funding.

The proposed project application would ask for \$4.2 Million in construction funding with a required a total estimated match of about \$1.8 Million (30%), for a total project value of \$6 Million. The 30% match is expected to be funded by Alameda CTC, but may have to be committed to up front by the City.

STAFF COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

City Staff has discussed this issue at these times:

1. City Council Study Session – Transportation Projects: Prioritize Potential Capital Projects and Consider ACTC And SB 1 Funding Opportunities on December 19, 2017.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to file an application for SB 1 Transportation Corridors Enhancement Program (TCEP) funding assigned to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), committing any necessary matching funds, and assuring completion of the Quiet Zones on 65th Street, 66th Street, and 67th Street project.

PREPARED BY: Ryan O'Connell, Senior Civil Engineer, Public Works

**APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
EMERYVILLE CITY COUNCIL**



Carolyn Lehr, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. Exhibit A – SB 1 TCEP Final Guidelines