



SAN RAFAEL
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Agenda Item No: 4.e

Meeting Date: April 21, 2025

SAN RAFAEL CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Department: Public Works

**Prepared by: Mariana Sanchez, Junior Engineer
April Miller, Public Works Director**

City Manager Approval: _____

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "CJ", is written over the City Manager Approval line.

TOPIC: METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC) REGIONAL MEASURE 3: SAFE ROUTES TO TRANSIT AND BAY TRAIL PROGRAM RESOLUTION OF LOCAL SUPPORT

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF LOCAL SUPPORT AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSIGNED TO MTC AND COMMITTING ANY NECESSARY MATCHING FUNDS AND STATING THE ASSURANCE TO COMPLETE THE CANAL NEIGHBORHOOD BELLAM GATEWAY LOCAL ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution of local support authorizing the execution of the grant application, committing any necessary matching funds, and giving assurance to implement the Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project as described in the Project's Regional Measure 3 grant application.

BACKGROUND:

The Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project ("Project") would implement a fully separated shared-use path for pedestrians and bicyclists along Bellam Boulevard from Playa Del Rey to Kerner Drive, and along Bellam Boulevard from the I-580 SB offramp to Andersen Drive, continuing south on Andersen to Jacoby Street, and connecting to the North-South Greenway and the Larkspur Ferry Terminal, Downtown San Rafael, and destinations further beyond. This segment of Bellam Boulevard is also on the Bay Trail alignment, and as the Project meets Bay Trail Design Guidelines, the facility will itself serve as a high-quality recreational segment linking to the scenic trails along the San Rafael Bay and on the North-South Greenway. The Project builds off prior sidewalk widening along Bellam Boulevard between I-580 and Kerner Boulevard, completed through a successful partnership between the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) and the City of San Rafael.

Regional Measure 3 (RM3) provides \$150 million in funding for a competitive grant program to fund bicycle and pedestrian access improvements on and in the vicinity of the state-owned toll bridges connecting to rail transit stations and ferry terminals. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is responsible for administering a competitive grant program for the RM3 funds. In February 2025, MTC staff recommended the Project for funding as part of the RM3 Safe Routes to Transit & Bay Trail

FOR CITY CLERK ONLY

Council Meeting:

Disposition:

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(SR2TBT) Cycle 1 program, which programs \$75 million in new funding for fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28.

ANALYSIS:

The Project was selected for funding recommendation by a review committee out of 50 other applications in the RM3: SR2TBT program. The Project was reviewed by MTC Staff and was forwarded to the Programming and Allocations Committee meeting on February 12, 2025. Final consideration by the full MTC Commission occurred on February 26, 2025, with the adoption of [MTC Resolution No. 4639](#). A requirement ahead of the allocation of funds for the Project is that the City must adopt a Resolution of Local Support in a template format approved by MTC. The Resolution of Local Support authorizes the execution of the grant application, commits required matching funds, and gives assurance that the Project will be implemented as described in the Project RM3 application.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

The Project has conducted extensive outreach as part of the US 101/I-580 Multi-Modal and Local Access Improvement Program. On November 8, 2023, the Voces de Canal Leadership Group convened the final meeting of the eight-week transportation curriculum. The course was sponsored by the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) and was designed to engage and educate a group of Spanish-speaking leaders from the Canal Neighborhood. The meeting gave TAM and the City of San Rafael an opportunity to hear from the community members about the transportation issues they identified throughout the course and several field trips along the Bellam Boulevard corridor.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

In October 2024, the City filed a notice of exemption (NOE) with the County of Marin for the Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project for categorical exemption based on existing facilities (CEQA Guidelines § 15301). The NOE included in Attachment 2.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Adoption of the Resolution of Local Support is required for the Regional Measure 3 (RM3) Safe Routes to Transit and Bay Trail Program (SR2TBT) application. The City is currently positioned to receive \$6,840,000 to fund the Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project. Total project costs are estimated at \$8,560,000; Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) and the City of San Rafael have collectively committed to funding \$1,720,000 of this cost.

OPTIONS:

The City Council has the following options to consider regarding this matter:

1. Adopt the resolution of local support authorizing the filing of an application for funding assigned to MTC and committing any necessary matching funds and stating the assurance to complete the Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project.
2. Do not adopt the resolution of local support as described.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution of local support authorizing the execution of the grant application, committing any necessary matching funds, and giving assurance to implement the Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project as described in the Project RM3 application.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution of Local Support Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project
2. Notice of Exemption

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION OF LOCAL SUPPORT AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSIGNED TO MTC AND COMMITTING ANY NECESSARY MATCHING FUNDS AND STATING THE ASSURANCE TO COMPLETE THE CANAL NEIGHBORHOOD BELLAM GATEWAY LOCAL ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of San Rafael (herein referred to as APPLICANT) is submitting an application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for \$6,840,000 in funding assigned to MTC for programming discretion, which includes federal funding administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and federal or state funding administered by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) such as Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP) funding, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funding, Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding, Transportation Alternatives (TA) set-aside/Active Transportation Program (ATP) funding, and Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) funding (herein collectively referred to as REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING) for the Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement Project (herein referred to as PROJECT) for the Regional Measure 3: Safe Routes to Transit and Bay Trail (RM3: SR2TBT) (herein referred to as PROGRAM); and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress from time to time enacts and amends legislation to provide funding for various transportation needs and programs, (collectively, the FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ACT) including, but not limited to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP) (23 U.S.C. § 133), the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) (23 U.S.C. § 149), the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) (23 U.S.C. § 175), and the Transportation Alternatives (TA) set-aside (23 U.S.C. § 133); and

WHEREAS, state statutes, including California Streets and Highways Code §182.6, §182.7, and §2381(a)(1), and California Government Code §14527, provide various funding programs for the programming discretion of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ACT, and any regulations promulgated thereunder, eligible project sponsors wishing to receive federal or state funds for a regionally-significant project shall submit an application first with the appropriate MPO, or RTPA, as applicable, for review and inclusion in the federal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, MTC is the MPO and RTPA for the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay region; and

WHEREAS, MTC has adopted a Regional Project Funding Delivery Policy (MTC Resolution No. 3606, revised) that sets out procedures governing the application and use of REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING; and

WHEREAS, APPLICANT is an eligible sponsor for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING; and

WHEREAS, as part of the application for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING, MTC requires a resolution adopted by the responsible implementing agency stating the following:

- the commitment of any required matching funds; and
- that the sponsor understands that the REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING is fixed at the programmed amount, and therefore any cost increase cannot be expected to be funded with additional REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING; and
- that the PROJECT will comply with the procedures, delivery milestones and funding deadlines specified in the Regional Project Funding Delivery Policy (MTC Resolution No. 3606, revised); and
- the assurance of the sponsor to complete the PROJECT as described in the application, subject to environmental clearance, and if approved, as included in MTC's federal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and
- that the PROJECT will have adequate staffing resources to deliver and complete the PROJECT within the schedule submitted with the project application; and
- that the PROJECT will comply with all project-specific requirements as set forth in the PROGRAM; and
- that APPLICANT has assigned, and will maintain a single point of contact for all FHWA- and CTC-funded transportation projects to coordinate within the agency and with the respective County Transportation Agency (CTA), MTC, Caltrans, FHWA, and CTC on all communications, inquires or issues that may arise during the federal programming and delivery process for all FHWA- and CTC-funded transportation and transit projects implemented by APPLICANT; and
- in the case of an RTIP project, state law requires PROJECT be included in a local congestion management plan, or be consistent with the capital improvement program adopted pursuant to MTC's funding agreement with the County Transportation Agency (CTA); and

WHEREAS, that APPLICANT is authorized to submit an application for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING for the PROJECT; and

WHEREAS, there is no legal impediment to APPLICANT making applications for the funds; and

WHEREAS, there is no pending or threatened litigation that might in any way adversely affect the proposed PROJECT, or the ability of APPLICANT to deliver such PROJECT; and

WHEREAS, APPLICANT authorizes its Executive Director, General Manager, or designee to execute and file an application with MTC for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING for the PROJECT as referenced in this resolution; and

WHEREAS, MTC requires that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the MTC in conjunction with the filing of the application.

NOW, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN RAFAEL RESOLVES as follows:

RESOLVED that the APPLICANT is authorized to execute and file an application for funding for the PROJECT for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING under the FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ACT or continued funding; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT will provide any required matching funds; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT understands that the REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING for the project is fixed at the MTC approved programmed amount, and that any cost increases must be funded by the APPLICANT from other funds, and that APPLICANT does not expect any cost increases to be funded with additional REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT understands the funding deadlines associated with these funds and will comply with the provisions and requirements of the Regional Project Funding Delivery Policy (MTC Resolution No. 3606, revised) and APPLICANT has, and will retain the expertise, knowledge and resources necessary to deliver federally-funded transportation and transit projects, and has assigned, and will maintain a single point of contact for all FHWA- and CTC-funded transportation projects to coordinate within the agency and with the respective County Transportation Agency (CTA), MTC, Caltrans, FHWA, and CTC on all communications, inquires or issues that may arise during the federal programming and delivery process for all FHWA- and CTC-funded transportation and transit projects implemented by APPLICANT; and be it further

RESOLVED that PROJECT will be implemented as described in the complete application and in this resolution, subject to environmental clearance, and, if approved, for the amount approved by MTC and programmed in the federal TIP; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT has reviewed the PROJECT and has adequate staffing resources to deliver and complete the PROJECT within the schedule submitted with the project application; and be it further

RESOLVED that PROJECT will comply with the requirements as set forth in MTC programming guidelines and project selection procedures for the PROGRAM; and be it further

RESOLVED that, in the case of a transit project, APPLICANT agrees to comply with the requirements of MTC's Transit Coordination Implementation Plan as set forth in MTC Resolution No. 3866, revised; and be it further

RESOLVED that, in the case of a highway project, APPLICANT agrees to comply with the requirements of MTC's Traffic Operations System (TOS) Policy as set

forth in MTC Resolution No. 4104; and be it further

RESOLVED that, in the case of an RTIP project, PROJECT is included in a local congestion management plan, or is consistent with the capital improvement program adopted pursuant to MTC's funding agreement with the County Transportation Agency (CTA); and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT is an eligible sponsor of REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING funded projects; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT is authorized to submit an application for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING for the PROJECT; and be it further

RESOLVED that there is no legal impediment to APPLICANT making applications for the funds; and be it further

RESOLVED that there is no pending or threatened litigation that might in any way adversely affect the proposed PROJECT, or the ability of APPLICANT to deliver such PROJECT; and be it further

RESOLVED that APPLICANT authorizes its Executive Director, General Manager, City Manager, or designee to execute and file an application with MTC for REGIONAL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING for the PROJECT as referenced in this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be transmitted to the MTC in conjunction with the filing of the application; and be it further

RESOLVED that the MTC is requested to support the application for the PROJECT described in the resolution, and if approved, to include the PROJECT in MTC's federal TIP upon submittal by the project sponsor for TIP programming.

I, **LINDSAY LARA**, Clerk of the City of San Rafael, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of said City on Monday the 21st day of April 2025, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: **Councilmembers:**
NOES: **Councilmembers:**
ABSENT: **Councilmembers:**

Lindsay Lara, City Clerk

Notice of Exemption

21-2024-176

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Marin

3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 234

San Rafael, CA 94903

From: (Public Agency): City of San Rafael
111 Morphew Street
San Rafael, CA 94901

(Address)

FILED**OCT 11 2024**

SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK
BY: Ally, Deputy

Project Title: Canal Neighborhood Bellam Gateway Local Access Improvement ProjectProject Applicant: City of San Rafael Department of Public Works

Project Location - Specific:

Bellam Boulevard, Andersen Drive, Jacoby StreetProject Location - City: San Rafael, CA Project Location - County: Marin**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

This is a public project with the City of San Rafael acting as the applicant and Lead Agency. The work consists of construction of a shared pedestrian and bicycle pathway along Bellam Boulevard between Playa Del Rey and Kerner Boulevard, along Bellam Boulevard between I-580 and Andersen Drive, along Andersen Drive from Bellam Boulevard to Jacoby Street, and along Jacoby Street, connecting to the SMART pathway, also known as the North-South Greenway. This initiative aims to provide pedestrian and bicycle facility connection between the Canal neighborhood and other destinations in San Rafael and beyond. All work will take place in the City of San Rafael.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of San Rafael Department of Public WorksName of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of San Rafael Department of Public Works**Exempt Status: (check one):**

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15301(c), Existing Facilities
☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project will add shared pedestrian and bicycle facilities within the existing right-of-way of roadways in San Rafael. These facilities are in accordance with the description of the Existing Facilities Categorical Exemption (Sec. 15301(c)), which includes "existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities...and other alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities...and other similar alterations that do not create additional automobile lanes." This project does not involve expansion of the City's roadway network.

Lead AgencyContact Person: April Miller, Public Works Director Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 415-485-3409**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Marian S. Date: 10/11/2024 Title: Junior Engineer

▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

POSTED 10/11/2024 **TO** 11/10/2024