

RESPONSE TO COUNCIL QUESTIONS RE: 5/4/2021 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Agenda Item #: 1.D

Title: Approve Budget Modification No. 23 in the Amount of \$310,000 to Provide Reimbursable Funding for the Creation of Objective Citywide and Specific/Area Plan Design Guidelines and Citywide Landscape Design Guidelines

Council Question: What is the expected timeline (outreach, report to PC/CC) for these guidelines to be created? They seem to have bearing on multiple Specific Plans (ECR, Moffett, LS) that were also referred to in the Staff report.

Staff Response: The grant requires work to be completed by June 2022. The detailed schedule for outreach and hearings will be prepared in the next month or two. Some of the objective design guidelines may require amendment to the Plans (if approved in the next couple of months), so as not to hold up the rest of the Plan adoption.

Agenda Item #: 1.G

Title: Award of a Contract (PW21-03) to Redgwick Construction Co. in the amount of \$1,091,866 for Homestead Road at Homestead High School Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements, Finding of CEQA Categorical Exemption, and Approve Budget Modification No. 25

Council Question: How does this project relate with the Homestead Corridor Safe Routes to School Project that is being led by the County (and was initiated by Simitian's office)? Last I heard in Oct 2020:

The VTA Board of Directors voted in June of 2020 to provide \$1.7 million in FY 21-22 funding for the Homestead Safe Routes to School project. This funding is for environmental clearance and design. Once this work is complete, the project will be "shovel ready" and grant funding for construction can be pursued.

Is this funding a portion of that defined project and matches those project goals? Is this implementing a portion of that project that will need to be redesigned?

Staff Response: The City received a \$1,000,000 VERBS grant for the Homestead Road project in 2017 prior to the County's planning study of improvements along Homestead Road from Foothill Expressway to Hollenbeck Avenue. The County's study took the City's Homestead Road project into consideration in their analysis and we coordinated with them to make sure improvements along the Homestead High School frontage were aligned. The County's project estimate was only inclusive of their work toward improvements further west along the Homestead corridor.

Agenda Item #: 1.J

Title: Adopt a Resolution of Local Support, Authorize the Filing of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission Safe & Seamless Mobility Quick-Strike Grant Application, and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Grant-Related Documents for the Sunnyvale Saratoga Road Class IIB Buffered Bicycle Lanes Project

Council Question: We already have some buffered bike lanes in the city. The reports says “staff has not been able to prepare a study of the maintenance equipment and staffing necessary to maintain a Class IV facility.” What is the timeline for that study? (Outreach/ BPAC/CC?)

Staff Response: At this time, we have not developed a timeline to conduct the study on maintenance and staffing requirements necessitated by the installation of protected facilities. Staff is proposing this project of upgrading the existing Class II facility on Sunnyvale-Saratoga to Class II-B at this time as the buffered bicycle lane will be easily upgradeable to the Class IV facility and the proposed buffer will provide better safety and comfort levels for bicyclists in the near-term.

Council Question: The ATP is contingent on adding Class IV separated Bike Lanes. Have we resolved the issue of sweeping protected bike lanes of debris yet?

Staff Response: No, staff has not prepared the study to identify the cost of purchasing maintenance equipment and the additional staffing needs for the maintenance of a Class IV facility. The ATP does identify a goal of implementing Class IV protected facilities but implementing Class II-B in the near-term is supportive of the ATP goal and does not conflict with its long-term implementation.

Council Question: This project says it will narrow the travel lanes. What is the current width and how much will they be narrowed? What impact to traffic volumes and speed will the narrowing of lanes have?

Staff Response: The current travel lanes on Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road are 12-13 feet wide and will be narrowed to 11 feet wide. This will not affect the volume of traffic and will encourage motorists to drive at the posted 40mph speed limit. The 11-foot travel lanes will still accommodate truck and bus traffic on the roadway.

Council Question: This is requesting Grant Money. Is that the only money will that will be used on this project? Does Sunnyvale need to provide any partial matching money?

Staff Response: Staff has requested in the grant paperwork for MTC to allocate usage of toll credits in lieu of providing local match since the City will be advancing the design using budgeted city staff resources.

Agenda Item #: 1.K

Title: Adopt a Resolution of Local Support, Authorize the Filing of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission Safe & Seamless Mobility Quick-Strike Grant Application, and Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Grant-Related Documents for the Sunnyvale Bicycle, Pedestrian and Safe Routes To School Safety Improvements Project

Council Question: This Grant Request is only for \$1.9m. It says we will use improvement listed in Attachment 3. Attachment 3 is a pretty long list and appears to include more than \$1.9m in work. How will we decide which lines items will be done?

Staff Response: All the proposed improvements listed in Attachment 3 are quick-build improvements where they would be implemented via striping or by installing channeling curbs, delineators or bollards. The Grant Request of \$1.9M is for the construction costs for all the improvements listed in Attachment 3.

Council Question: This list appears to be from items that were approved in the ATP. There were some type improvement that are in the ATP, but we were told there would be further discussion before we attempted to install them. Examples are: "curb extensions and channeling curbs at many locations, protected intersection at Mary and Remington".

Are any of these examples expected to be completed as part of the work done in this project?

Staff Response: The improvements identified in the list will be implemented using quick build materials and methods. Past discussion with City Council was that protected facilities, road diets and removal of on-street parking will necessitate further discussion and study. The intersection of Mary Avenue/Remington Avenue is identified in the Vision Zero Plan and ATP as a future protected intersection for bicyclists and pedestrians. Staff is proposing that the intersection corners in the near-term be bulbed out using curb extensions to provide shorter crossing distances and larger waiting areas for pedestrians. Implementing quick build improvements will increase operations and maintenance costs in the near-term but staff has limited the number of installations and coordinated with street operations staff to minimize costs to avoid impacting operating budgets.

Agenda Item #: 3

Title: Approval of Redistricting Outreach Plan for City Council Redistricting, Second Amendment to Agreement with PlaceWorks, Inc. in the amount of \$67,410 and Approve Budget Modification No. 24 in the amount of \$112,000

Council Question: What is the latest estimate on when the Census Data will be released?

Staff Response: The most recent [Press Release](#) from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding the release of redistricting data indicates it will be provided to states by Sep. 30, 2021. The City will receive the data after the State of California makes adjustments for incarcerated individuals. We estimate cities will receive the data in late October 2021.

Council Question: The current proposed schedule (attachment 3) lists a possible final district boundary selection in March of 2022. I thought the County registrar was requiring new district maps before that. What is the current County Registrar date?

Staff Response: Prior to the announced delay from the U.S. Census Bureau, the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters had requested final redistricting maps by Aug. 16, 2021. The Registrar has not publicized an updated deadline following the delay announced by the U.S. Census Bureau. Elections Code [Section 21622](#)(a)(3) provides charter cities such as Sunnyvale a deadline of 205 days before the Nov. 8, 2022 Election to provide redistricting maps. The proposed final district boundary selection in March 2022 meets the 205 day deadline which falls on April 17, 2022.

Elections Code [Section 21622](#)(b) allows charter cities such as Sunnyvale to adopt a different redistricting deadline by ordinance or charter, however, staff does not recommend exploring a later redistricting deadline through this provision. Providing the redistricting data to the Registrar at a later date could adversely impact the Registrar's ability to accurately implement the new district boundaries in advance of the Nov. 8, 2022 Election.

Agenda Item #: 4

Title: CONTINUED FROM APRIL 20, 2021 Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Taking a Position on Assembly Bill (AB) 703 (Rubio, Blanca D) - Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences

Council Question: In the Staff Report, it suggests to not take a position on this topic, but rather have the Council establish a long-term policy rather than endorse a certain measure.

Does Staff have a recommendation of what that long-term policy would look like or the process for creating it?

Staff Response: Council may address this through the adoption of a Legislative Advocacy Position (LAP) in support of expanding the use of virtual participation in public meetings for councilmembers and members of the public. The Council could take action tonight to add their position as a LAP and this will enable the Mayor to perform advocacy in the future without having to return to Council for specific approval. Staff would suggest that our position support legislative efforts that would enable cities to hold virtual or hybrid meetings but that do not mandate a specific meeting format.