

RESPONSE TO COUNCIL QUESTIONS RE: 10/12/2021 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Agenda Item #: 1.B

Title: Award of Contract to Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc., for Safe Routes to School Improvements on Maude and Sunnyvale Avenues (F21-109)

Council Question: RTC - Page 1 of 2. "...removal of pork chop islands and new curb extensions..." How will this impact the traffic flow on Maude/Mathilda? What traffic studies have been done to show how traffic flow will be impacted. Will right hand turns cause back-ups?

Staff Response: Yes, traffic studies were conducted at the intersections of Mathilda Avenue/Maude Avenue and Sunnyvale Avenue/Maude Avenue/Borregas Avenue to determine the effects of removing the pork chop islands and installing curb extensions. The City's transportation consultant used traffic data collected in 2018 and 2020 along with field observations to study the level of service and queuing effects related to this proposed project and determined that implementing the proposed improvements will not negatively impact vehicular operations and will improve safety. The project will only remove the right turn pork chop at the intersection but not the associated right turn lane approaching the intersection. This results in the same capacity at the intersection but will change operations in that right turning vehicles will need to stop at a standard signalized intersection before starting the right turn on red movement and be fully controlled by the traffic signal. Currently under the existing conditions, vehicles only need to yield to conflicting traffic and can approach at higher speeds but do not have their own dedicated lane departing the intersection and must merge with opposing cross traffic. As a result, changing the intersection configuration will not negatively impact operations during the peak commute period but will improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists in that they will not have to cross a lane of traffic that is not truly controlled by a traffic signal.

Agenda Item #: 2

Title: Consider the Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association's Proposed Addition to the Sunnyvale Heritage Park Museum and Find that the Project is Exempt from California Environmental Quality Act

Council Question: RTC Page 4 of 6 - Discussion: "... (DPW 17-05), which is expected to begin in the near term.....". What is a specific target start date? When is the study expected back to Council? Why is this study taking so long to get started and completed?

Staff Response: The consultant to complete this study issue has been selected and the final draft scope of work is almost completed. Once the Council acts on the Museum Expansion request, the scope of work will be finalized, and the consultant selection and contract will be brought to Council for approval. This will likely be in November of this year. The study issue is expected to take approximately 18 months to complete.

Council Question: RTC Page 4 of 6 - Discussion: Paragraph 2 talks about "production" of apricots. It is my understanding, that the trees are trimmed at a specific height. Could apricot production, across the entire orchard, be increased by letting the trees grow taller? Ex: An increase of one foot taller for the trees would produce how many pounds of fruit?

Staff Response: Staff does not have the expertise to answer this question. Staff can ask the contractor for a response, but it will take additional time to get a response.

Council Question: The draft 5th amendment to the SHSMA Lease Agreement lists Leslie Lawton as the president. This is definitely not the current president of the association (Leslie was a past president who passed away last year).

Staff Response: The draft 5th amendment will be updated with the name of the current president. The SHSMA website lists Dixie Larsen as president.

Agenda Item #: 3

Title: Approve Transfer from the Housing Mitigation Fund to the General Fund Related to Five Parcels Purchased with General Funds for the Downtown Specific Plan Area Block 15 Development for \$11,245,263 and Approve Budget Modification No. 9 in the Amount of \$11,245,263

Council Question: RTC - Page 3 of 6 - Discussion: "... Housing Division has budgeted \$9M to be transferred...". Without asking me to just look it up in the budget, could staff provide a summary page of how they are anticipating or estimating how the rest of the Housing Mitigation Fund (HMF) is looking to be allocated? I know these decisions will come to the Council, just trying to understand the current thinking of the remaining funds. I am trying to understand the "forward look" of this fund.

Staff Response: Outside of operating and smaller annual programs funded out of the HMF, staff currently has two large projects that are allocated funding but pending release until construction start. First, Block 15 has \$17M in HMF pending construction close, which is slated for October 19. Second is Orchard Gardens, a new redevelopment/addition to an existing affordable housing site, awarded \$7.5M in HMF in 2020. Housing issues a Notice of Funding Availability once the fund reaches a healthy balance; our hope is to release a new NOFA (\$10-15M) in late Summer 2022 as there are two new affordable housing developments that will be seeking funding next year. However, that will rely solely on the receipt of new Housing Mitigation Funds from upcoming projects.

Council Question: If Staff approves the recommended transfer amount, the Housing Mitigation Reserve is left at \$38.3 Million. Is the reserve amount fully available, or is it actually less than that because of other commitments (like the estimated \$9M for this transfer that was previously envisioned)?

Staff Response: The \$38M in reserves includes the unfunded projects listed in the previous question (\$24M) \$38.3 million is the anticipated year end reserve balance assuming the City receives an anticipated \$20.5 M in mitigation fee revenue this year. To date, the City has received approximately \$5M but anticipates if developments continue as planned the funding will materialize either within the current fiscal year, or in FY 2022/23. The ending balance for FY 2020/21 is still being reviewed but is anticipated to be between \$17 and \$19 M, close to as planned in the adopted budget.