RESPONSE TO COUNCIL QUESTIONS RE: 11/12/19 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Agenda Item #: 4

Title: Authorize a Local Match of \$600,000 for the VTA Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian Competitive Grant Program for the Stevens Creek Trail extension project; and Approve Budget Modification No. 12 to Appropriate \$600,000 from the Transportation Impact Fees Reserve in the Capital Projects Fund

<u>Council Question:</u> The request seems to be from Mountain View to only study improvements up to Remington. Why don't we have the Study look at all the way to Fremont.

In the previous reviews of the Trail, the Dale/Heatherstone extension was always discuss, reviewed and considered as going to Fremont. Why break this section up now? Since Mountain View asked for this, can't we ask them to include up to Fremont in the Study?

With this information I have right now, I don't see why we would want to break up the "sections" from how they were previously discussed. What is the value to the development and full completion of the Stevens Creek Trail and to the Four City partners to change the sectioning now?

Staff Response:

Staff is recommending that the Stevens Creek Trail Dale/Heatherstone to Fremont segment be constructed in two portions to make it more competitive for 2016 Measure B funding. The segment from Dale/Heatherstone to W. Remington and Mountain View High School has been environmentally cleared through CEQA for construction already and will only need some minor technical studies to supplement the EIR to include a bridge connecting to Remington. Since this section is more project ready, because of the CEQA clearance, it can start final design and construction earlier. With limited funding available from Measure B and project readiness being a criteria, this section will be very competitive. Also, there are limited staff resources available for this project from Sunnyvale and Mountain View.

As part of the future Capital Improvement Project budgeting cycle, a project could be prioritized to advance the preliminary design and environmental studies of the Stevens Creek Trail from W. Remington to Fremont which could be used as part of the required local match for obtaining future Measure B funding and improving project readiness when competing against other projects.

The entire segment could be submitted for Measure B funding, but the project would be less competitive for the limited amount of Measure B funds. It would also slow down design and future construction of the portion form Dale/Heatherstone to W. Remington.