



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

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MEETING DATE: MARCH 15, 2011

ITEM NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT:** COMBINED TRANSPORTATION FUNDING PROGRAM APPLICATIONS FOR THE REGIONAL TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION PROGRAM (RTSSP)

**DATE:** MARCH 3, 2011

**FROM:** PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT - TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIVISION

**PRESENTATION BY:** PETER NAGHAVI, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** RAJA SETHURAMAN, TRANSPORTATION SERVICES MANAGER, 714-754-5032

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution (Attachment 1) approving the submittal of a traffic signal system improvement project for the Fairview Road Corridor under the Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) Combined Transportation Funding program (CTFP), Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program (RTSSP), for Fiscal Years 2010-11 to 2013-14.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In November 1990, Orange County voters approved Measure M, a 20-year, half-cent local transportation sales tax. All major transportation improvement projects and programs included in this original Measure "M" have been completed or are currently underway. With the Measure M program, the City of Costa Mesa has been successful in securing approximately \$80 million in Measure "M" funds under the Combined Transportation Funding Program (CTFP) and turnback revenues.

In November 2006, the Orange County voters passed the Renewed Measure "M" program (M2), extending the half-cent sales tax for the next 30 years, beginning in the year 2011. Funds from this sales tax are proposed to fund a wide range of improvements on Orange County freeway, arterial, and transit systems.

In November 2010, the OCTA Board of Directors approved guidelines for the CTFP program, including funding for the Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program (RTSSP). A total of \$10 million has been allocated Countywide for this "Call for Projects." According to OCTA guidelines, the traffic signal system projects proposed will need to be regional and extend across several jurisdictions, and no one project may exceed \$1 million.

## **ANALYSIS:**

As traffic signal improvement projects are currently underway on Harbor Boulevard and Bristol Street corridors, staff selected the Fairview Road corridor for possible traffic signal upgrades. The City of Costa Mesa and the City of Santa Ana will partner in the application for funding for the traffic signal system enhancement on the Fairview Road corridor from State Route 55 to State Route 22. The corridor is a primary link between the two freeways and also a high demand bus route. Costa Mesa will serve as the lead on the joint project, which also includes four (4) Caltrans signals.

The City of Costa Mesa is in the process of upgrading its traffic signal controllers. This project will help the City accomplish that goal, while fostering inter-jurisdictional traffic signal synchronization. The City will maintain the signal timing and hardware as part of routine maintenance, though the project is expected to provide new equipment with less overall maintenance needs. City Staff will have the final approval authority for implementation of any timing plans developed as part of the project within the City's jurisdiction. The total project cost for the Fairview Traffic Signal Corridor will be \$620,000 and split between the City of Costa Mesa and the City of Santa Ana.

The complete and final submittal of applications in response to this "2010 Call for Projects," is due on March 18, 2011. The projects submitted will need to meet certain minimum requirements to be eligible for Measure "M2" grants. While the City meets all these eligibility requirements, OCTA requires approval of the attached resolution prior to consideration of the City's application.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

One alternative considered is to not adopt the Resolution. This alternative would result in the City's project application being declined and render the City ineligible to compete for available grant funding.

## **FISCAL REVIEW:**

The project includes upgrades at fifteen (15) traffic signals along Fairview Road with a 20 percent match share. The project will replace outdated traffic signal controllers at intersections on Fairview Road resulting in reduced future maintenance needs at those signals. The estimated value of all upgrades is approximately \$300,000 within the City of Costa Mesa. The total financial obligation for the City of Costa Mesa will be approximately \$60,000, which can be contributed in staff time, equipment purchases, and overall project coordination.

If the project application is successful, staff will recommend a funding source for any required local match. Available sources include staff time and Air Quality Management District (AQMD) AB2766 funds. The City receives approximately \$100,000 per year from AQMD funds.

## **LEGAL REVIEW:**

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

**CONCLUSION:**

The current Countywide “Call for Projects” is the first opportunity for the City to compete for RTSSP grant funding for implementation of traffic signal synchronization projects under the Renewed Measure “M” program. Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution for OCTA’s consideration of the Fairview Road Corridor application under the Combined Transportation Funding Program.

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**RAJA SETHURAMAN**  
Transportation Services Manager

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**PETER NAGHAVI**  
Director, Department of Public Services

ATTACHMENTS: 1 - [CTFP/RTTSP Resolution](#)

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