

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

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MVB

Date: April 28, 2015

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Carlyle S. Workman, Public Works Manager

Subject: **Local Transportation Fund Funding Agreement between the City of Lancaster and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority – LAF5803, Avenue I Corridor Improvements, 15th Street West to 10th Street West Project**

Recommendations:

- a. Approve a Funding Agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) for Local Transportation Funds of the Avenue I Corridor Improvements, 15th Street West to 10th Street West project and authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents.
- b. Increase estimated revenues in Account No. 321-3402-100 by \$227,458.00 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Appropriate \$372,458.00 in LACMTA Local Transportation Funds to Capital Improvement Account No. 321-15ST042-924, and \$372,458.00 in 209 funds to Capital Improvement Account No. 209-15ST042-924 for the Avenue I Corridor Improvements, 15th Street West to 10th Street West Project.

Fiscal Impact:

With these actions, sufficient funds are available in Capital Improvement Account Nos. 321-15ST042-924 and 209-15ST042-924.

Background:

The City submitted the Avenue I Corridor Improvements, 15th Street West to 10th Street West project in response to LACMTA's 2011 Call for Projects. This project was submitted under the Transportation Enhancement (TE) mode and was successful in receiving a recommendation for STIP funding through the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

In June 2014, the LACMTA Board of Directors recertified its Fiscal Year (FY) funding for projects programmed through prior Projects. This action ensured the availability of funds in FY 2013-14 and FY 2014-15 for the Avenue I Corridor Improvements, 15th Street West to 10th Street West project.

To comply with LACMTA's adopted Timely Use of Funds Policy, LACTMA must fully execute the funding agreement with the City of Lancaster by no later than December 31, 2014. In September 2014, the City submitted project information to LACMTA for their use in producing the funding agreement. In October 2014, the City and LACMTA agreed on scope. The City received the first draft of the funding agreement for signature on March 27, 2015.

On March 30, 2015, the LACMTA Board placed the Avenue I Corridor Improvements, 15th Street West to 10th Street West project on the potential deobligation list. As soon as the City returns the signed agreement to LACMTA, we will be removed from the list. On May 6, 2015, the City will have the opportunity to appeal proposed deobligation of funds to LACMTA's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Avenue I functions as the northern gateway to the core of the City from State Route 14 and provides convenient access to residential homes; commercial and retail businesses; professional offices and automotive services; as well as entertainment and recreation venues. Currently, existing right-of-way (ROW) improvements along Avenue I are inadequate, incomplete and deteriorating.

The proposed project will "right-size" the travel way on Avenue I, between 15th Street West and 10th Street West, to allow for enhancement of streetscape within the existing ROW. The proposed improvements will include:

- reducing travel way to two lanes in each direction;
- narrowing sidewalk and adding landscaped planters/street trees in tree wells;
- construction of new centerline raised landscaped medians;
- additional parallel parking in front of non-residential parcels
- upgrading existing frontage road medians by replacing portions of stamped concrete with landscaping/additional street trees;
- installing concrete bus pads, bus stop amenities, and replacing bomanite at frontage road bus stops with concrete to allow for more convenient pedestrian and disabled use;
- installation of new sidewalk where there are gaps in path of travel;
- flattening cross-slope of travel way;
- installation of striped bike lane buffers; and
- 5 to 6 foot wide bike lanes in each direction on Avenue I.

ADA accessibility will be addressed throughout; intersections will be upgraded to include pedestrian refuge areas/islands, crossings will be shortened, and man hand timers will be replaced with countdown timers.

The intent of the proposed improvements are to provide "complete streets" that accommodate multiple modes of travel, improves safety, increases visibility of businesses and service providers by slowing traffic, and is attractive to citizens.

In anticipation of the Avenue I Corridor Improvements, 15th Street West to 10th Street West project, Council adopted Resolution No. 13-46 on July 23, 2013, declaring its intent to create Underground Utility District No. 2013-01. Funding for the undergrounding of SCE facilities will be covered by the City's Rule 20(A) funds; future Rule 20(A) annual allocations shall be mortgaged up to a maximum of five (5) years' allocation, as needed, to complete SCE undergrounding within the District.

MD:tl

Attachment:
Funding Agreement