



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STATEMENT



June 23, 2020

File ID: 20-0251

## **TITLE**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,636; AMENDING THE FY 2020/2021 CIP PROGRAM BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR; AND APPROVING THE AGREEMENT FOR SHARED STREETS PILOT PROGRAM BETWEEN THE CITY AND SANDAG (4/5 VOTE REQUIRED)

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Council adopt the resolution.

## **SUMMARY**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, traffic volumes were observed to have decreased and the practice of social distancing has become prevalent. This has led to the proliferation of the concept of “Slow Streets” or “Shared Streets,” a worldwide movement to dedicate more street space to non-vehicular use, initially on a temporary basis. The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) created a funding opportunity to support cities in San Diego County in their efforts to implement shared streets. Chula Vista was selected to receive \$8,636 from this funding opportunity.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The proposed activity has been reviewed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it has been determined that the activity falls under a Statutory Exemption pursuant to Section 15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies) of the State CEQA Guidelines. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it has also been determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. Thus, no further environmental review is required.

## **BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Not applicable.

## **DISCUSSION**

Among the many consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, reduced vehicular traffic volume has been prevalent worldwide, which has established conditions conducive to implementing “Slow Streets” or “Shared Streets” initiatives at the community level. Shared Streets is a worldwide movement to dedicate

more space on public streets to non-vehicular road users. To facilitate implementing Shared Streets in the San Diego Region, SANDAG announced a funding opportunity to allow local agencies to propose temporary Shared Streets projects for grant funding.

Chula Vista proposed applying the funds toward closing Third Avenue from “E” Street to “H” Street to vehicles in the evenings as well as the construction of temporary parklet facilities. Parklets are temporary conversions of on-street vehicular parking space(s) to pedestrian and/or park space to increase sidewalk and parkway area, thus encouraging walking, social distancing, and/or open-air dining.

SANDAG selected Chula Vista’s proposal to receive \$8,636 from the funding opportunity as reimbursement for costs incurred to implement the proposal up to the awarded amount. This item would receive the grant funds and appropriate them to the existing “Neighborhood Safety Program” (TRF0327) capital improvement project, the existing budget for which will supplement the grant funding as needed.

### **DECISION-MAKER CONFLICT**

Staff has reviewed the property holdings of the City Council and has found that, Mayor Salas has real property holdings within 500 feet of the boundaries of the property which is the subject of this action. Consequently, pursuant to California Code of Regulations Title 2, sections 18700 and 18702.2(a)(7), this item presents a disqualifying real property-related financial conflict of interest under the Political Reform Act (Cal. Gov't Code § 87100, et seq.) for the above-identified member.

Staff is not independently aware, and has not been informed by any City Council member, of any other fact that may constitute a basis for a decision-maker conflict of interest in this matter.

### **CURRENT-YEAR FISCAL IMPACT**

Adoption of this resolution will result in appropriating \$8,636 in SANDAG Grant funds to TRF0327 - Neighborhood Safety Program. The grant funds may be supplemented by funding from TRF0327 to construct temporary shared streets infrastructure.

### **ONGOING FISCAL IMPACT**

No ongoing fiscal impact is anticipated as businesses are expected to maintain the parklet facilities.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. SANDAG Shared Streets Grant Agreement

*Staff Contact:* Eddie Flores, City Traffic Engineer