



Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Cohen and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** Geoff Dolan, City Manager

**FROM:** Jim Arndt, Director of Public Works  
Michael A. Guerrero, Principal Civil Engineer

**DATE:** April 7, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of a Resolution Supporting the Sepulveda Boulevard Bridge Widening Project Grant Application in Metro's 2009 Call for Projects

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council pass Resolution Number 6182 supporting an application in the upcoming Metro's 2009 Call for Projects for the Sepulveda Boulevard Bridge Widening Project.

**FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

The total estimated project cost for this project is 17.3 million dollars. This includes design, construction, inspection, environmental documentation, right-of-way acquisition/certification, contingency, etc. The grant application would be for \$10.92 million. The required match for this category of projects in the upcoming Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Call for Projects is 35 percent. The City must therefore be willing to contribute up to \$5.88 million to the project. A combination of Proposition C Local Return Funds, Gas Tax funds, and private developer contributions will be committed to this project if the Call for Projects application is successful.

ESTIMATED PROJECT FUNDING					
FUNDING SOURCES	SECURED	FUTURE ALLOCATION	UNSECURED CITY MATCH	UNSECURED GRANT	TOTAL
Proposition C Funds	\$ 1,250,000*	\$ 2,000,000*			\$ 3,250,000
SAFETEA-LU Funds	\$ 500,000				\$ 500,000
Gas Tax Funds		\$ 500,000*			\$ 500,000
Developer Contribution	\$ 250,000*				\$ 250,000
Metro Call for Projects				\$10,920,000	\$10,920,000
Unidentified City Funds			\$ 1,880,000*		\$ 1,880,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,500,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,880,000</b>	<b>\$10,920,000</b>	<b>\$17,300,000</b>

\* Denotes City matching funds to be used for Metro Call for Projects

**DISCUSSION:**

***Project Description***

Northbound Sepulveda Boulevard at a point south of the bridge is currently four lanes. The fourth lane becomes a right turn only lane as it approaches the 33rd Street entrance to the Manhattan Village Shopping Center. North of 33rd Street, Sepulveda Boulevard narrows down to three lanes as it passes over the bridge. Once over the bridge, the street widens back to four lanes as Sepulveda Boulevard approaches the Rosecrans Avenue intersection.

The proposed project will add one northbound through lane by widening the existing bridge on the east side. It would create a fourth through lane from 33rd Street to a point north of the bridge. Caltrans has recently updated the project cost estimate. The estimated cost at this point is \$17.3 million. This cost includes design, construction, and inspection costs and an estimated \$1.6 million for right-of-way engineering and right-of-way acquisition. These right-of-way acquisition costs could be substantially reduced if the adjacent property owners on the east side of Sepulveda Boulevard dedicate the necessary right-of-way at no cost to the City. Staff is currently working with the property owners in an effort to accomplish this.

***Right-of-Way Acquisition***

The widening of the bridge was originally included as part of the Rosecrans Avenue/Sepulveda Boulevard Intersection Improvements and a larger associated street widening project that went north through the City of El Segundo. This project was completed in September 2001. The bridge widening, however, was deleted from the project when it met stiff opposition by one of the property owners on the east side of the bridge and the required right-of-way could not be secured. The scope of the project was then reduced by eliminating the bridge widening work so that the rest of the project could move ahead and avoid losing Federal funding commitments.

This property has since changed ownership. The current owner is interested in changing some of the uses on this parcel. In discussions with the City's Community Development Department over the necessary approvals for the changes in use, the owner of the property has tentatively agreed to dedicate the necessary right-of-way for the bridge widening project.

The owner of Manhattan Village Shopping Center, which is the other property owner affected by the proposed bridge widening project, is also considering major changes to their property. At the appropriate time, staff will be discussing the need for right-of-way dedications from the owners of the shopping center property.

***Proposition C Local Return***

The County's guidelines for Proposition C Local Return funds allow for the City to set aside its annual allocations (currently averaging \$500,000) towards a larger project. These funds, however, can only be used to improve streets that also serve fixed bus routes. In the past, the City has used these funds to improve portions of Rosecrans Avenue, Aviation Boulevard, Manhattan Beach Boulevard, and Artesia Boulevard. Sepulveda Boulevard would be a qualifying use for these funds. The City is currently setting aside available Proposition C Local Return funds in a Capital Reserve Fund in order to accumulate funds for this important improvement to the City's transportation infrastructure.

***Project Scheduling***

A typical Call for Projects covers a six-year funding window. It is estimated it will take the City four years to accumulate the necessary Proposition C funds to complete funding of the project. However, during this period, actual design, environmental documentation, and right-of-way acquisition/certification could commence. There is also the possibility of attracting additional outside funds either in the form of grant funds, from private developers of nearby projects, or other local agencies (Los Angeles County or Caltrans).

The Call for Projects applications are due April 17, 2009. Metro is due to make a final decision on all project applications by September, 2009. It should be noted that the funds being awarded in this category will be Federal funds, so all Federal procedures with respect to environmental documentation, plan development, and right-of-way acquisition must be followed. If the grant application is successful, staff would recommend retaining the services of Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to commence immediately with project design, the necessary environmental documentation, and formal right-of-way acquisition/certification. The County Department of Public Works is very experienced in meeting the Federal requirements and following Federal guidelines.

It is estimated that actual construction could start in 2013. The schedule could be accelerated if additional grant funds, agency contributions, or private contributions are identified.

Attachments: Resolution No. 6182  
GIS Map

xc: Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development  
Bruce Moe, Director of Finance  
Robert V. Wadden, Jr., City Attorney  
Henry Mitzner, Controller

RESOLUTION NO. 6182

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE METRO 2009  
CALL FOR PROJECTS GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE SEPULVEDA  
BRIDGE WIDENING PROJECT

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH,  
CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY FIND, DETERMINE AND DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby makes the following findings:

A. Sepulveda Boulevard is a major north-south arterial in the South Bay connecting the South Bay Region to Los Angeles International Airport and communities to the north of the airport; and

B. On a typical work day the traffic volume approaches 4,500 cars per hour in the morning and 3,500 cars per hour in the evening; and

C. Because the existing bridge is too near narrow, it forms a choke point for traffic traveling on Sepulveda Boulevard; and

D. Sepulveda Boulevard northbound currently provides four lanes as it approaches the bridge, but there is only room for three lanes passing over the bridge; and

E. Metro will be conducting a Call For Projects in Spring of 2009 to consider grant funding for projects of regional significance; and

F. The total estimated cost for the subject project is ten million dollars; and

G. The City Council, in support of the project, is willing to commit six years worth of Proposition C Local Return Funds (\$500,000 a year for six years = \$3 million); and

H. The City Council is willing to commit an additional \$500,000 towards the subject project, if necessary.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES  
HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 2. Recognizes that widening of the Sepulveda Bridge should be a high priority for satisfying the City's transportation needs.

SECTION 3. Supports and directs staff to submit a Call For Projects application in the total amount of ten million dollars as part of the 2009 Metro Call For Projects process.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall make this Resolution reasonably available for public inspection within thirty (30) days of the date this Resolution is adopted.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 6. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 7th day of April, 2009.

Ayes:  
Noes:  
Absent:  
Abstain:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California

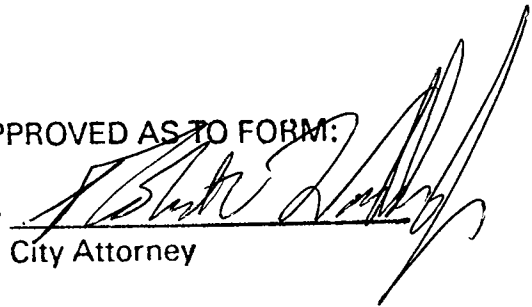
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to be the name of the City Attorney.

Rosecrans Ave

# Proposed Sepulveda Blvd Bridge Widening Project



0 100 200 300 Feet

**4 lanes North-bound**



Valley Dr

**3 lanes North-bound**

Manhattan Village Mall

33rd St

Sepulveda Blvd

**4 lanes North-bound**

30th St