



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 8, 2019

DEPARTMENT: Public Works Department

FROM: David Jacobs, Public Works Director

TITLE: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
COMMUNITY EVENTS AND PROJECTS

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a Resolution Supporting Active Transportation Community Events and Projects.

RECOMMENDATION:

Council is recommended to approve a Resolution in support of Ciclovía 2019. The City supported community event received funding support from a State Active Transportation Program grant secured by the Monterey County Health Department. Use of the grant funds require a Resolution supporting active transportation. The city General Plan policies are aligned with the goals of the State Active Transportation Program and the City continues to implement projects funded by this State Program.

BACKGROUND:

Ciclovía 2019 was held this past Sunday, October 6, marking the 7th year of this City supported event. Ciclovía is the City's Open Streets event where a 1.5-mile segment of the West Alisal corridor is closed to vehicle traffic and the street is converted to a plaza of activities that encourage healthy living and active transportation. Open Streets events are growing in popularity throughout the country as community-desired events. In Monterey County King City, Gonzales, and Watsonville have each initiated their own Open Street events in recent years.

Unique to Salinas, Ciclovía is led by the youth of Salinas who are involved in the planning and promotion of the event, under the guidance of Building Healthy Communities. Through participation in the event, young people are given the opportunity for civic engagement and development of leadership skills.

The City has supported the event since its inception. The City provides up to \$20,000 in in-kind services for the event which include staff time and materials from various City departments--Administration, City Attorney's Office, Police, Fire, Recreation/Community Services, Community Development and Public Works. The Police Department play a big role in working

with volunteers that manage the street closures as well as providing security for the event. City Departments also use the event to provide information on City Services and planning activities for which residents may be informed or participate. The Community Development Department, Recreation/Community Services, Public Works and others have had information booths as well as exhibits during Ciclovía.

The Monterey County Health Department secured a grant from the State's Active Transportation Program that provides support for Open Streets events within its jurisdiction including Ciclovía Salinas. Use of the funds require the attached Resolution supporting Active Transportation events and projects.

The City has also secured a total of \$8.69 Million in Active Transportation Program funds for the East Market Street Safe Routes to School Project (completed), the Alvin Drive Safe Routes to School Project (in design), and the Bardin Road Safe Routes to School Project (in design). Staff continues to aggressively seek funding from the State grant program for local projects.

These projects and the City's support for Ciclovía are in line with the objectives of the State Active Transportation Program. Staff therefore recommends the approval of the attached Resolution.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378). In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 includes the general rule that CEQA applies only to activities which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Because the proposed action and this matter have no potential to cause any effect on the environment, or because it falls within a category of activities excluded as projects pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378, this matter is not a project. Because the matter does not cause a direct or foreseeable indirect physical change on or in the environment, this matter is not a project. Any subsequent discretionary projects resulting from this action will be assessed for CEQA applicability.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

This item does not directly relate to the Council's Strategic Plan objectives, but it supports community desired improvements in the Downtown Vibrancy Plan, the East Alisal Corridor Plan, the upcoming Alisal Vibrancy Plan and Chinatown Revitalization Plan which are objectives of the Strategic Plan. Furthermore, the item supports the Council's Goal of a Well-Planned and Excellent Infrastructure and Quality of Life.

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The support of Ciclovía involves extensive departmental coordination involving all City departments as mentioned above from coordination with requisite City approvals, event security, street closures, and other services.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

Approval of the Resolution has no direct fiscal impact on the General Fund. The City provides in kind support to Ciclovía annually and secures grants and other transportation funding for infrastructure projects that relate to Active Transportation and that promote active living.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution