



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2017

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

FROM: JAMES SERRANO, TRANSPORTATION MANAGER

TITLE: DOWNTOWN COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT ALLOCATION
(CIP 9090)

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a Resolution accepting award of \$2,970,000 of Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds from the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) for the Downtown Complete Streets Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Public Works staff is developing plans and specifications for the Downtown Complete Streets Project which provides improvements on West Alisal Street from Blanco Road to Front Street. Complete streets refers to the approach to streets design that considers all street users. The project is planned to begin construction in Fall 2018. The RSTP funds will fully fund the existing project and provides funding for extending the improvements to Lincoln Avenue. Staff recommends accepting the award and allocating funds to the Downtown Complete Streets Project.

BACKGROUND:

Council approved the Salinas Downtown Vibrancy Plan in March 2015 of which the Downtown Complete Streets Project is an element. On August 16, 2016 the City Council accepted a federal grant from the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) for \$2.34 Million for Phase I of the Downtown Complete Streets Project. In April 2017, the Council approved a Memorandum of Agreement with TAMC and other central coast agencies to support complete streets improvements on the Marina-Salinas Corridor that includes West Alisal Street and Lincoln Avenue.

The project proposes to reduce incidences of collisions along the West Alisal corridor between Blanco Road and Front Street. Staff has therefore been working on plans that include right-sizing West Alisal Street in order to accommodate all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and drivers. Portions of the planned improvements are in downtown Salinas. Consequently, the design concepts on Alisal Street were included in community discussions for the Downtown Vibrancy Plan. Staff also held a community meeting at Hartnell College in January 2017 to inform other members of the community about the project. The Downtown Complete Streets project has

been discussed at continuing meetings regarding the Vibrancy Plan. Phase I of the Project will be improvements along the West Alisal Corridor as described.

Phase II will include improvements along Lincoln Avenue from Alisal to the Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC) and preparing both the West Alisal and Lincoln Corridors for future bus rapid transit service. Staff applied for grant funding from TAMC's Regional Surface Transportation Program. In August, the TAMC Board awarded \$2,970,000 of RSTP fund to the City's Downtown Complete Street Project to fund complete streets improvements along Lincoln Avenue which connects Alisal Street to the future Intermodal Transportation Center.

The project design phase is 85% complete with construction expected to begin in Fall 2018.

Staff is requesting Council accept the RSTP grant for \$2,970,000 and allocate the grant funds to the project (CIP 9090).

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Categorical Exemption. The City of Salinas has determined that this project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Section 15301, Class 1(c)) since most improvements associated with the Salinas segments are accomplished within existing streets including the provision of bike lanes, striping improvements and traffic signals which constitute minor alterations.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Implementation of the Downtown Vibrancy Plan is an objective of the City's strategic plan. The Downtown Complete streets project is one of the projects outlined in the Downtown Vibrancy Plan.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

There is no impact to the General fund. Funding for the project has come from past allocations of RSTP funds and federal funds from the HSIP. This grant supplements existing funding to allow completion of all improvements anticipated with the downtown complete streets project and includes funding to extend improvements along Lincoln Avenue towards East Market Street. With the new RSTP grant, total funding for the project is as follows:

RSTP	\$ 310,000
HSIP	\$2,340,090
RSTP (NEW)	\$2,970,000* (request to allocate to CIP 9090)
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$5,620,090</u>

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Site Map

TAMC Resolution Awarding Grant