



REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: January 8, 2008

SUBJECT: Authorization to Submit Application for SACOG Community Design Grant Funds

Report in Brief

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) promotes regional collaboration and planning in several areas, including transportation. One of the strategies used by SACOG to accomplish this objective is to provide financial incentives through the allocation of grant funds. The Community Design Grant program is one of several programs provided by SACOG to achieve this objective. After reviewing the program requirements and evaluating projects, staff has selected additional funding for the Lemen/North/East Realignment Project (City Project #00-04) as the most eligible and competitive project. In order to submit a grant application, the City Council must adopt a resolution authorizing such action.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve Resolution No. _____ authorizing submission of an application for the SACOG Community Design grant program in the amount of \$100,000 for the Lemen/North/East Realignment Project, and authorizing the City Manager to execute documents necessary to submit the application and accept the funds if approved.

Background

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) regulates the federal transportation funding for a six county region and facilitates other regional planning activities. The Community Design Grant was established as a way for SACOG to distribute federal transportation funds for projects in four of those counties--Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.

Every two years, SACOG accepts applications for these Community Design Grants. The grant is for projects that are transportation related, promote smart growth and are consistent with SACOG's Blueprint Principles. In the last round, the City was successful in securing almost \$500,000 in Community Design Grant funds for East Street improvements near the Casa Del Sol project.

In anticipation of the current round of SACOG funding, staff from the Public Works and Community Development Departments met to review potential projects. After reviewing the grant criteria, as well as having discussions with SACOG staff, it was determined that none of the larger scale

projects that would be eligible were advanced enough from a planning standpoint to field a competitive application at this time. One of the most important selection criteria is that the project must be able to be completed in two years. However SACOG established this year a separate category for smaller less competitive grants for a maximum of \$100,000.

Discussion

City staff feels that the project to realign the Lemen Ave/North St/East St intersection would be an excellent use of these funds. The project will improve a highly congested intersection by realigning the road and provide a positive pedestrian connection by signaling the intersection. This roadway links Yolano Village, the Housing Authority's densely populated public housing project, with East Street and Downtown. The project is consistent with SACOG's Blueprint Principles because East Street is a primary thoroughfare with access to public transit services, Downtown, and Woodland's primary employment center. Staff believes that several Blueprint Principles, including transportation choices, housing diversity, compact development and use of existing assets are addressed by the project.

An award of Community Design Grant funds will aid the City in the completion of this important project. Since the project is already receiving federal transportation funding, the new funds can be added without triggering any additional regulations or administrative requirements. Approval of this project as part of the January 8 agenda will facilitate the timely submission of the grant application which is due to SACOG on January 9.

Fiscal Impact

If approved by SACOG, this grant requires that the local government provide an 11.47% match in non-federal funds to the project. The project already has an adequate amount of local funding to provide this match. If the City is successful in obtaining this grant, then the funding will help offset additional project needs that will be requested in the upcoming capital budget.

Public Contact

Since the Public Works Department has been planning this project for some time, there have been several discussions with City Council members and members of the public. It has also been included in the City's Capital Improvement Plan, which is available for public review. The City Council agenda has been posted.

Alternative Courses of Action

1. Approve City Council Resolution No. _____ authorizing submission of an application for the SACOG Community Design grant program in the amount of \$100,000 for the Lemen/North/East Realignment Project, and authorizing the City Manager to execute documents necessary to submit the application and accept the funds if approved.

2. Cease further consideration of submitting a 2008 Community Design Grant application to SACOG.

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that the City Council approve Alternative No. 1.

Prepared by: Cynthia Shallit
Redevelopment Manager

Reviewed by: Barry Munowitch, AICP
Assistant City Manager

Gary Wegener
Public Works Director

Brent Meyer
Senior Civil Engineer

Michael Karoly
Senior Civil Engineer

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachments:

1. City Council Resolution

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL FOR THE SACOG
COMMUNITY DESIGN GRANT PROGRAM 2008
CITY COUNCIL
THE CITY OF WOODLAND**

RESOLUTION NO. _____

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND HEREBY AUTHORIZES the submittal of an application to the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) for a Community Design Grant, the execution of a Standard Agreement if selected for such funding and any amendments thereto; and any related documents necessary to participate in the SACOG Design Grant Program.

WHEREAS:

- A. The City of Woodland, a [political subdivision of the State of California], wishes to apply for and receive an allocation of funds through the SACOG Community Design Grant Program; and
- B. the procedures established a by SACOG require the applicant to certify, by resolution, approval of the application before submittal of the application to SACOG;

IT IS NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The City of Woodland shall submit to SACOG a Community Design Grant application for \$100,000 for Lemen Street improvements.
- 2. If the application for funding is approved, the City of Woodland hereby agrees to use the SACOG funds for eligible activities in the manner presented in the application.
- 2. The City of Woodland authorizes the City Manager to execute in the name of the City of Woodland, the application, the Standard Agreement, and all other documents required by SACOG for participation in the Community Design grant program, and any amendments thereto.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th Day of January, 2008, by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

David Flory, Mayor

The undersigned City Clerk there before named does hereby attest and certify that the foregoing is a true and full copy of a resolution of the Governing Board adopted at a duly convened meeting on the date above-mentioned, which has not been altered, amended or repealed.

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Sue Vannucci, City Clerk

Ann Siprelle, City Attorney