



City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

**TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL**

DATE: February 19, 2008

SUBJECT: FY09 Federal Appropriations Request

Report in Brief

The City Council has traditionally approved the City of Woodland's Federal appropriations requests. These appropriations requests are also typically addressed by the City delegation to the Capital to Capital trip in early April of each year, where the City delegation meets with our federal representatives and key staff regarding the needs of the City of Woodland that meet the criteria set for federal appropriations. Our input to the Cap to Cap process will be consistent with Council's direction relative to the appropriations requests.

Staff recommends that City Council authorize the FY 2009 Federal Appropriation Request to Congress for the NB I-5/SB SR 113 freeway to freeway connector project, and authorize the Mayor to sign the attached letters to Congressman Thompson and Senators Boxer and Feinstein.

Background

This project continues to be the City's priority regional project for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding which is programmed through YCTD and SACOG. Funding is currently proposed with SACOG for \$5.9 million to complete design and all but approximately \$2.1 million in right of way acquisition. The current request is for \$2.1 million.

As the City Council is aware, the City has engaged Akin Gump to provide federal advocacy services in association with this project. The FY 2009 Federal Appropriations Requests described herein are one of the tasks that need to be completed in order to support Akin Gump's efforts as part of this process.

Discussion

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ITEM:

This project has been a longstanding regional priority because it connects two freeway segments. This project helps create an alternate freeway connection on the north side of Sacramento. This alternate route is becoming more important due to the increased congestion on the I-80 causeway and resultant accident closures, which forces the interstate traffic to reroute through Woodland. This redundancy in east-west freeway connections through the Sacramento region allows for improved access for emergency vehicles and homeland security needs. This project is especially beneficial to the City of Woodland as the current routing places freeway traffic onto our local street system, having to negotiate four signalized intersections to complete the connection. This is now the #1 priority highway transportation project in Yolo County (per the Yolo County Transit District board) for new funding.

Fiscal Impact

Congressional funding for the I5/113 project will make the project “shelf ready” approximately two years sooner than otherwise possible. The current plan is to have the state funding that has been requested through SACOG serve as the local match for any prospective federal earmark for this project. If both of these fund sources are not available concurrently, then the City may need to program approximately \$400k from the road development fund to serve as the local match.

Public Contact

Posting of the City Council agenda.

Commission Recommendation

This project has been reviewed by the Planning Commission, as part of past Capital Budget reviews, and found consistent with the General Plan.

Alternative Courses of Action

1. Authorize the FY 2009 Federal Appropriation Request to Congress for the NB I-5/SB SR 113 freeway to freeway connector project, and authorize the Mayor to sign the attached letters to Congressman Thompson and Senators Boxer and Feinstein.
2. Defer the Congressional request at this time and wait for the next State STIP cycle or the next Congressional funding cycle.

Recommendation for Action

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ITEM:

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

Prepared by: Brent Meyer, PE
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Reviewed by: Gary Wegener
Public Works Director

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachment Draft Letters

February 20, 2008

The Honorable Barbara Boxer (same for Senator Feinstein, Congressman Thompson)
United States Senate
112 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510

SUBJECT: FY2009 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

Dear Senator Boxer:

As the Appropriations Committee begins consideration of the fiscal year 2009 budget, the City of Woodland requests your leadership and support for federal assistance on the below listed project. We understand budget limitations and have focused on this one major project, which has been a standing request that requires additional funding support. We greatly appreciate your support and commitment for interstate and local/regional traffic congestion relief that this project will provide.

Transportation Appropriation – MPO priority Project \$ 2.1 million-- I-5 and State Route 113 Connection, Phase II -for right of way acquisition of northbound I-5 to southbound SR 113.

This project has been a longstanding regional priority because it connects two freeway segments. This project helps create an alternate freeway connection on the north side of Sacramento. This alternate route is becoming more important due to the increased congestion on the I-80 causeway and resultant accident closures, which forces the interstate traffic to reroute through Woodland. This redundancy in east-west freeway connections through the Sacramento region allows for improved access for emergency vehicles and homeland security needs. This project is especially beneficial to the City of Woodland as the current routing places freeway traffic onto our local street system, having to negotiate four signalized intersections to complete the connection. This is now the #1 priority transportation project in Yolo County (per the Yolo County Transit District Board) for new funding.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

David Flory
Mayor