



City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: July 15, 2008

SUBJECT: Authorize Application for Federal Safe Routes to School Grant

Report in Brief

The City Council and City staff are working proactively with the Woodland Joint Unified School District, parents, and residents, to address traffic safety concerns near schools. In response to these discussions, City staff prepared a grant application to be submitted for the Federal Safe Routes to School Grant.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the submittal of the Federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Grant application, authorize the Mayor and Vice-Mayor to sign the attached letter of support, and authorize the City Engineer to execute all necessary forms on behalf of the City of Woodland.

Background

Authorized by SAFETEA-LU (the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users), the SRTS Program came into effect in August of 2005. This federal funding program emphasizes community collaboration in the development of projects, and projects that incorporate elements of the 5 E's – education, encouragement, engineering, enforcement, and evaluation. This grant is being administered by the State of California Department of Transportation. Grant applications are due by July 18, 2008.

Staff has been working with school district staff, school site administrators, parents and neighbors to review projects which fall into the program guidelines. Staff hopes that the proposed improvements will increase bicycle & pedestrian traffic around schools, decrease vehicular traffic around schools, improve air quality, improve safety & security and community involvement, and improve partnership among schools, local agencies and parents.

This grant application is intended to secure funds in addition to the California Safe Routes to School Grant recently awarded to the City of Woodland.

Discussion

If the City Council approves submission this grant to Caltrans, the Engineering Division will manage and implement all aspects of this grant. The City is requesting funds for improvements at the following locations:

- TruckeeWay/College Way intersection (crossing improvements)
- Spruce Drive/El Dorado Drive intersection (crossing improvements)
- Third Street/Marshall Avenue intersection (crossing improvements)
- Zamora Elementary (speed feedback signs)
- Tafoya Elementary (speed feedback signs)
- Dingle Elementary (speed feedback signs)

Fiscal Impact

The grant application states there is no local match and funds are distributed as reimbursements. However, there may be some minor administrative costs that are not reimbursable. Based on this, approximately \$10,000 in Measure E funding will need to be added to the capital budget if the City receives this grant. Staff will return to the City Council for approval of a budget augmentation for these funds if the grant application is successful.

Public Contact

Posting of the City Council agenda.

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the submittal of the Federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Grant application, authorize the Mayor and Vice-Mayor to sign the attached letter of support, and authorize the City Engineer to execute all necessary forms on behalf of the City of Woodland.

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Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachment: Letter of Support