



24-5237

**DATE:** April 16, 2024 (Item No. {{item.number}})  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Harry Freitas, Director, Roads and Airports Department  
**SUBJECT:** Funding Agreement with VTA for Foothill Expressway Multi-Modal Feasibility Study

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approve Funding Agreement with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority relating to the Foothill Expressway multi-modal feasibility study in an amount not to exceed \$350,000 for period April 16, 2024 through December 31, 2026, that has been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form and legality.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. Funding for this agreement in the amount of \$450,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Road Fund budget, account 603-62840-0020, Comprehensive Study. The County's contribution, per the agreement, will be in the amount of \$100,000 from the Road Fund and the remainder of \$350,000 is from the Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian grant program.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

On October 3, 2023, the County Board of Supervisors ratified the application for the subject grant. The Multi-modal Feasibility Study will identify infrastructure alternatives that accommodate and improve bicycle and pedestrian access along Foothill Expressway and Junipero Serra Blvd and then develop concepts for an infrastructure that will allow bicyclists, pedestrians, and vehicles to safely share the right of way. This grant does not fund any construction.

The proposed funding agreement with the VTA will allow the County to conduct a Multi-modal Feasibility Study to identify alternatives for infrastructure that accommodates and improves bicycle and pedestrian access along Foothill Expressway and Junipero Serra Blvd.

The 2016 Measure B Bicycle & Pedestrian grant program had approximately \$1.18 million available for FY2022 to FY2023. Based on VTA policy, this is a competitive grant where the member agencies submit applications that were scored by a committee using scoring criteria adopted by the VTA.

The County and VTA have now prepared a funding agreement to accept the grant from the VTA to commence work on the study.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 2016 Santa Clara County voters approved Measure B, a 30-year, half-cent countywide sales tax to enhance transit, highways, Expressways, and active transportation (bicycles, pedestrians).

The 2016 Measure B Bicycle & Pedestrian program funds bicycle and pedestrian projects of countywide significance identified by the cities, and VTA. The program will give priority to those projects that connect to schools, transit, and employment centers, fill gaps in the existing bike and pedestrian network, safely cross barriers to mobility, and make walking or biking a safer and more convenient means of transportation for all county residents and visitors. Under this program, the Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Studies Competitive Grant category supports activities leading to capital project development for eligible projects listed on the ballot measure.

## **CHILD IMPACT**

The recommended action will have positive impact on the Healthy Lifestyle indicator by improving pedestrian and bicycle access and safety to commercial, transit, and community services for all members of the traveling public, including children and youth.

## **SENIOR IMPACT**

The recommended action will have positive impact on the Healthy Lifestyle indicator by improving pedestrian and bicycle access and safety to commercial, transit, and community services for all members of the traveling public, including seniors.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

The recommended action will have positive sustainability implications by providing a mode shift away from a single occupied vehicle to a more sustainable mode of walking, bicycling, and rolling (e-bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc.) contributing to Green House Gas (GHG) emission reduction.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Failure to execute a cooperative funding agreement with VTA would result in the County not receiving the grant and not completing the Feasibility Study.

## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors will process one Foothill Expressway Multi Modal Feasibility Study Agreement to be sent to VTA for final signatures via DocuSign. Please send notification via DocuSign to Tony Arata, Roads and Airports Department, who will route for VTA signature. Fully executed agreement will be returned to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

- Foothill Expressway Multi-Modal Feasibility Study Agreement Signed.