

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	June 28, 2021
SUBJECT:	Accept a Caltrans Strategic Partnership Grant Award of \$500,000 for the State Route 273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan
AGENDA ITEM:	10
STAFF CONTACT:	Michael Kuker, Associate Transportation Planner

SUMMARY:

SRTA was awarded a Caltrans Strategic Partnerships Grant of \$500,000 for the State Route (SR) 273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor (NSMC) Plan. The plan will evaluate needs and prioritize projects on the segment between Canyon Road and I-5. Caltrans District 2 has received a tentative award of \$500,000 to study the remainder of the corridor. A resolution from the board of directors accepting the award is required to receive the funds.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that:

1. The board of directors approve Resolution 21-13 (Attachment A) accepting the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Grant Program award of \$500,000 for the SR-273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan; and
2. Direct staff to begin procurement of consultant services.

DISCUSSION:

In February 2021, the SRTA Board of Directors authorized the submission of a grant application through the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for the SR-273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan (<https://www.srta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5382>). The plan covers the SR-273 corridor between Canyon Road (southern terminus) and I-5 (northern terminus), including adjacent frontage roads. The plan will assess operational deficiencies and community needs, then develop and prioritize projects that align with current and future land uses and the needs of local residents, businesses, and travelers.

In coordination with SRTA, Caltrans District 2 submitted an application for a Special Studies grant to fund a similar effort on SR-273 between Canyon Road and the southern terminus at I-5 (roughly 7 miles). Their grant of \$500,000 has been tentatively awarded. SRTA is seeking to consolidate funds from the two grants under one procurement to minimize overhead costs and to ensure coordination and consistency between the two projects.

Through this planning process, SRTA aims to reduce mobility barriers for people and goods, enhance safety for all users, improve transit opportunities, and strengthen the resiliency against extreme weather events. Given the corridor's regional significance, the effort will require

considerable outreach to and input from local jurisdictions, stakeholders, and the general public. The grant award includes resources for targeted outreach to disadvantaged communities.

Deliverables will include conceptual drawings and designs and a prioritized list of projects to be incorporated into the regional transportation plan. It is anticipated some improvements will be able to be programmed through State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP), and others may require additional grant funding through programs such as the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), the Active Transportation Program, and other discretionary grants.

SRTA was notified of an award of \$500,000 by Caltrans. A board resolution accepting the grant is necessary before the award may be finalized. SRTA staff will work with Caltrans to fulfil the additional conditions of grant acceptance mentioned in the award letter (Attachment B). Once a Notice to Proceed is received from Caltrans, SRTA staff will begin the process to procure a consultant to assist with the project. A recommendation to award a consultant contract is expected at the October board meeting. Work on the project is expected to be completed by December 2023.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may suggest items to include in the request for proposal's scope of work or request additional information.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

SRTA will work closely with Caltrans District 2 and the local jurisdictions throughout the procurement and planning processes, and an advisory committee of regional stakeholders will be established as part of the project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The SR-273 NSMCP project budget is \$625,000, which includes grant funds totaling \$500,000 and a 20% SRTA match of \$125,000 that may be in the form of cash match or an eligible in-kind contribution, such as staff time. In anticipation of a possible grant award, Work Element 707.09 was created in the FY 2021/22 Overall Work Program.



Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director

Attachments:

- A. Resolution 21-13: Accept FY 2021/22 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Award of \$500,000 for the SR-273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan
- B. Award notification letter from Caltrans
- C. The SR-273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan grant application is available online at: <https://www.srta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5332/>

RESOLUTION



RESOLUTION NUMBER:	21-13
SUBJECT:	Accept a Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program – Strategic Partnership Award of \$500,000 for the SR-273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan

WHEREAS, the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for the Shasta Region and is responsible to carry out the transportation planning and programming process; and

WHEREAS, SRTA applied for, and has been awarded, a grant of \$500,000 under the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program – Strategic Partnership to help fund the SR-273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan; and

WHEREAS, a Restricted Grant Agreement is needed to be executed with the California Department of Transportation before such funds can be claimed through the Transportation Planning Grant Programs;

WHEREAS, SRTA wishes to delegate authorization to execute these agreements and any amendments thereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency:

1. Accepts the Caltrans Strategic Partnerships grant award of \$500,000 to help fund the SR-273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan; and
2. Authorizes the executive director to execute all Restricted Grant Agreements and any amendments thereto with the California Department of Transportation, to provide any other information, and certifications and assurances as needed for the project to proceed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of June 2021, by the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency.

Greg Watkins, Chair
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency

California Department of Transportation

DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
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06/22/21

On behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Division of Transportation Planning, we are pleased to congratulate you on your Fiscal Year 2021-22 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant award.

Fiscal Year 2021-22 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program					
Grant Category	Strategic Partnerships - Federal Highway Administration State Planning and Research Part I				
Project Title	State Route 273 Northern Section Multimodal Corridor Plan				
Grantee/Agency	Shasta Regional Transportation Agency				
Executive Director	Daniel Little				
Grantee/Agency Contact	Michael Kuker				
Sub-Recipient(s)	No Sub-Recipient				
Caltrans District Contact(s)	Kathy Grah				
Caltrans District Contact(s) E-mail	kathy.grah@dot.ca.gov				
Grant Award	Local Match (Cash)	Local Match (In-Kind)	Total Local Match	% Local Match	Total Project Cost
\$500,000	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000	20.00%	\$625,000
Conditions of Award Due to Caltrans		Grant Expiration Date		Final Invoice Due	
10/01/21		06/30/24		08/30/24	
* The final contractually agreed upon Local Match and Fund Source are located on the Grant Application Cover Sheet and Project Cost and Schedule. Any change in Local Match that increases/decreases the Total Project Cost must be approved by Caltrans and may require a Formal Amendment. Each invoice must include the contractual/agreed upon local match % - any deviation to this amount requires an approved Tapered Local Match Amendment prior to invoice submittal. Any change to the Local Match Fund Source requires prior Caltrans approval and an Administrative Amendment.					

Next Steps

1. The Caltrans District Grant Manager will schedule a Conditional Award Teleconference, with your agency soon.
 - A list of conditions and project revisions necessary to accept grant funding will be provided at this meeting as well as a follow-up email outlining the discussion.
2. The required conditions must be submitted to the Caltrans District Grant Manager no later than the date listed in the table above.
 - Failure to satisfy these conditions will result in the forfeiture of grant funds.
3. The Caltrans District Grant Manager will review and approve all items required to fulfill the Conditions of Grant Acceptance outlined in the teleconference and follow-up email.
4. Once the required conditions are met and agreements in place, the Caltrans District Grant Manager will:
 - Send a Notice to Proceed letter (for MPO/RTPAs, this will happen after the OWP/OWPA formal amendment is processed). **Grant work cannot begin until the Notice to Proceed letter is received by your agency.**
 - Coordinate and schedule a grant kick-off meeting with your agency.

If you have questions concerning your Conditional Grant Award, please reach out to your Caltrans District contact listed in the table above.

Sincerely,



ERIN THOMPSON
Chief, Office of Regional and Community Planning