



**CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
April 14, 2015**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Agenda Item # 4**

**SUBJECT:** Authorize the City Manager to execute the Community Development Block Grant contract for FY 2015/16 and appropriate up to \$75,000 of eligible Community Block Grant funds to the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvement Project

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**BACKGROUND**

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through the County of Santa Clara, to small cities within the County. The program funds capital projects that benefit low and very-low income households or otherwise disadvantaged persons. CDBG CIP funds may not be used for ADA compliance projects in general. Applicable capital projects include new low-income housing construction or rehabilitation and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements that remove an existing barrier for the disabled.

The City of Los Altos has traditionally used CDBG funds to assist those considered a “Presumed Benefit;” a category of people who are presumed to be low-income, such as seniors, severely disabled adults, and victims of domestic abuse by installing curb cuts, widening sidewalks, etc., which remove barriers impeding disabled access. On May 27, 2014, Council approved a Joint Powers Agreement with the County of Santa Clara that allows the City to continue receiving allocations from the CDBG program through September 2017.

Recently completed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects funded by CDBG grant funds include the sidewalk improvement projects on Portola Avenue, San Antonio Road, and Fremont Avenue.

**EXISTING POLICY**

The City receives Community Development Block Grant Capital Improvement Project funds as a result of the 2014/17 Joint Powers Agreement with the County of Santa Clara.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

None

**DISCUSSION**

CDBG CIP project recommendations are presented in April in anticipation of a July 1, 2015 contract start date with Santa Clara County. Due to a significant reduction in federal funding to the CDBG program nation-wide, the City’s allocation for Fiscal Year 2015/16 is expected to be in the \$65,000 to \$75,000 range. Previous annual allocations have ranged from \$60,000 to \$130,000.

For the FY 2015/16 CDBG CIP project, an inventory of all downtown parking plaza driveway approaches was conducted as shown in Attachment A. It was discovered that, of 63 existing driveways, seven approaches were found to be non-compliant and presented an access barrier to those with disabilities traveling along the public sidewalk or attempting to access the public sidewalk from accessible parking spaces within the parking plazas.

The proposed Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvement Project was presented to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) at its March 25, 2015 meeting. The Commission was supportive of the proposed project and voted unanimously to recommend it to the Council for inclusion in the CIP.

It is anticipated the proposed CIP project will be completed over a two-year timeframe with design and partial construction completed in the first fiscal year and remaining construction completed in the second fiscal year of funding. The actual project schedule will be determined upon completion of the proposed project design. The proposed CIP project and description will be included in the upcoming five-year CIP being developed as part of the City's Financial Plan.

### **PUBLIC CONTACT**

This item was considered at the March 25, 2015 Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting.

Posting of the meeting agenda serves as notice to the general public.

### **FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACT**

The FY 2015/16 CDBG CIP contract will allow the City to proceed with design and construction of the proposed Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvement Project. Since the project has yet to be designed, it is difficult to determine the exact amount of the CDBG funds required to complete the project. Should additional funds be required, it is recommended Council direct the FY 2016/17 CDBG funds to complete the project. This proposal will be presented in spring 2016 as a recommendation for the use of the FY 2016/17 CDBG funds.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Categorically Exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 (c) Improvement of Existing Facilities

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- A. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Community Block Grant Contract for FY 2015/16
- B. Appropriate up to \$75,000 of eligible Community Block Grant funds to the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvement Project

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Do not apply nor accept Community Block Grant funds and utilize other City monies for the Parking Plaza driveway approach improvements

Prepared by: Dave Brees, Special Projects Manager

### **ATTACHMENT:**

- 1. Downtown Parking Lot Driveway Approach inventory

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Authorize the City Manager to execute the Community Development Block Grant contract for FY 2015/16 and appropriate up to \$75,000 of eligible Community Block Grant funds to the Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Improvement Project

City of Los Altos  
Parking Plaza Driveway Approach Inventory  
March 5, 2015

Driveway Approach No.	Note
7	Cross Slope exceeds maximum allowed
8	Cross Slope exceeds maximum allowed
9	Cross Slope exceeds maximum allowed
10	Cross Slope exceeds maximum allowed
61	Cross Slope exceeds maximum allowed; Storm Drain inlet relocation required
62	Cross Slope exceeds maximum allowed
63	Cross Slope exceeds maximum allowed



**LEGEND:**

 DRIVEWAY APPROACH



**REVISION**

Description	Date

**ENGINEERING DIVISION**

**DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT  
DRIVEWAY APPROACH  
INVENTORY**

DRAWN	VW
CHECKED	VC
APPROVED	VC
DATE	3/4/2015
SCALE	1" = 200'
DWG. NO.	