



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** March 1, 2016

**TO:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Transportation Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Options For Increasing Streets Program Infrastructure Funding

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Finance Committee provide input to staff on options to increase funding for street related capital infrastructure.

### **DISCUSSION:**

At its meeting of February 2, 2016, Council directed staff to work with the Finance Committee to develop options for increasing the amount of funding available to fund streets, sidewalks, storm drains, street lights, traffic signals, and other related infrastructure (Streets Infrastructure).

At this first meeting with the Finance Committee, staff will present a list of identified options for increasing the amount of money available for Streets Infrastructure and receive input from the Finance Committee regarding priorities and additional options for consideration.

Staff intends to meet frequently with the Finance Committee, with the goal of developing a recommendation for consideration by Council by July of 2016.

### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Streets infrastructure is funded entirely from special purpose or restricted funds. These include Utility Users Tax, Measure A Sales Tax, Gas Tax, and several other smaller revenue sources. These funds also support the operational programs related to the maintenance of the streets and right of way. Funds for street infrastructure are flat or declining while costs continue to increase. Deferral of maintenance for streets in particular accelerates the rate of deterioration.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

Well-maintained infrastructure supports a healthy environment by minimizing damage to vehicles. Well-functioning storm drains effectively convey water to creeks and the ocean, while decreasing the amount of transported debris, sediment, and litter.

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**SUBMITTED BY:** Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office