



Agenda Item No. _____

File Code No. 670.08

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 10, 2008
TO: Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Transportation Division, Public Works Department
SUBJECT: Boysel Multipurpose Pathway – Appropriation Of Federal Funds

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council increase estimated street revenue by \$86,000 and appropriate the same to the Streets Capital program for the Preliminary Engineering Phase of the Jake Boysel Multipurpose Pathway project.

DISCUSSION:

The Boysel Multipurpose Pathway project is an infrastructure-only project to plan, design and construct an off-street multipurpose pathway, separated from the roadway, for exclusive use by bicyclists and pedestrians. The multipurpose path will connect Old Mill Road and La Colina Road, running between the St. Vincent housing project and Cieneguitas Creek. The pathway is near La Colina Jr. High, Vieja Valley Elementary and Hope Elementary School and is named in memory of 12-year old Jake Boysel who was struck and killed by a motorist in 2006 while biking to school on Calle Real.

On January 3, 2007, Staff submitted a grant application for Federal Safe Route to Schools funds for the design and construction of a multipurpose path. Staff worked with the Boysel Family, the Hope and Santa Barbara School Districts, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition, the Coalition for Sustainable Transportation and St. Vincent/Mercy Housing, in the development of the grant application. The federal grant in the amount of \$901,700 was approved by Caltrans on June 27, 2007, via Section 1404 of SAFTEA-LU, Safe Routes to School Program. On August 5, 2007, the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments amended their Federal Transportation Improvement Program to include this project.

Since the grant was awarded, the City has been working with Caltrans staff to get the project underway. On May 20, 2008, Caltrans authorized \$86,000 to begin the Preliminary Engineering Phase of the project.

The City's goal is to complete the project by mid-2010 as the multipurpose pathway must be constructed by June 27, 2011 to remain in compliance with the grant conditions. Once the City has completed the environmental review and preliminary engineering phase of the project, the City will be required to obtain additional authorizations from Caltrans for the Right-of-Way and Construction Phases. The City will then return to Council to request fund appropriation for the additional phases.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The City has been awarded the Federal Safe Route to School grant for the Boyssel Multipurpose Bike Path in the amount of \$901,700. The project is projected to be completed using this grant and funds from other grants that are available for bicycle facilities. The action being requested at this time is to increase the estimated Streets revenue by \$86,000 and appropriate it to the Streets Capital program.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The multipurpose pathway will facilitate alternative modes of transportation that are environmentally friendly. The project will directly support increased safety and convenience for elementary and middle school children who walk and/or bike to Vieja Valley School, Hope Elementary School and La Colina Junior High School. The general public will also benefit from this multipurpose path.

PREPARED BY: Browning Allen, Transportation Manager/JG/mb

SUBMITTED BY: Paul Casey, Acting Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office