

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 05/07/12		Item Number: <u>C-7</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Approval of Final Plans and Specifications and Authorization to Publish a Notice Inviting Bids for the Jefferson Boulevard Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Improvements Project at Hetzler Road, P-956			
Contact Person/Dept.: Hong Wang/PW& Helen Kerstein/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-5604 & (310) 253-5618	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☐	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒		Date: _____	
Public Notification: (E-Mail) Agenda and Meetings – City Council (05/02/12); (Mail) Property Owners, Residents, and Businesses on Jefferson Bl. between Duquesne Ave. and Higuera St. and on Hetzler Road (04/17/12); (E-Mail) Baldwin Hills Conservancy (04/17/12); (E-Mail) California State Parks (04/17/12); (E-Mail) City of Los Angeles (05/03/12); (E-Mail) Capital Improvement Projects Listserv (05/02/12); (E-Mail) Parks, Recreation & Community Service Department Updates Listserv (05/02/12); (Published) Culver City News (04/26/12; 05/03/12)			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (04/25/12)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (04/30/12)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by K. Marsden) (05/01/12)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (05/02/12)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council approve the final plans and specifications and authorize publication of a notice inviting bids for the Jefferson Boulevard Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Improvements Project at Hetzler Road, P-956.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Since the 2009 opening of the State of California Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook (Overlook) located in Culver City, it has become a popular destination for visitors from around the region. Currently, many visitors to the Overlook choose to park near the entrance on Jefferson Boulevard in order to access the climbing stairs, which have become a key attraction. There is limited parking on the south (Overlook) side of Jefferson Boulevard, so some visitors choose to park on the north (Ballona Creek) side of the road and then negotiate the four-lane major arterial. Also, there is no sidewalk on either side of the stretch of Jefferson Boulevard near the Overlook. As a result, there have been complaints from users of the Overlook about the parking and accessibility challenges on Jefferson Boulevard.

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On June 13, 2011, the City Council adopted a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application through the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's Proposition 84 Grant Program for the Jefferson Boulevard Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Improvements Project. The project application included the following improvements: a new traffic signal, high visibility crosswalks, and curb extensions/bulb-outs at the Jefferson Boulevard and Hetzler Road intersection; raised landscaped median islands and new sidewalks along Jefferson Boulevard near its intersection with Hetzler Road, and improvements to a 10-space parking lot, which is owned and to be maintained by California State Parks on Jefferson Boulevard west of Hetzler Road. The project also includes the restriping of Jefferson Boulevard between Duquesne Avenue and Higuera Street to include bicycle lanes.

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board approved the City's grant application at their June 24, 2011 meeting. Since then, staff has been overseeing the design of the plans and specifications for the project by KOA Corporation under its general on-call traffic engineering services contract with the City. Staff is now requesting that the City Council approve these plans and specifications and authorize the publication of a notice inviting construction bids.

The award of the construction contract is anticipated to be presented to the City Council for consideration in June 2012. Should the City Council award the contract, construction is then slated to occur from June/July through November 2012.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, initial review of the project by staff established that there are no potentially significant adverse impacts on the environment and the project has been determined to be exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15301 (Existing Facilities), 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land), and Section 15061(b)(3), which is a general exemption stating that CEQA only applies to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The project includes relatively minor changes to existing street corridors with the goal of improving pedestrian and bicycle access, as well as minor improvements to a small parking lot area utilizing permeable materials. It does not include the removal of healthy scenic trees and will not result in any significant impacts relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality. Furthermore, the project is consistent with the City's plans, including its adopted General Plan and Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. A Notice of Exemption will be filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk's Office and the California State Office of Planning and Research upon approval of the plans and specifications.

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FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Project Budget	
Funding Source	Amount
State Prop 84 Grant(42300956)	\$566,403
Community Development Impact fund(41700933)	\$175,000
Total	\$741,403

Estimated Project Expenses	
Design Fee	\$55,000
Construction	\$647,000
Construction Inspection Services	\$39,000
Total Estimated Project Expenses	\$741,000

MOTION:

That the City Council:

Approve the final plans and specifications and authorize publication of a notice inviting bids for construction of for the Jefferson Boulevard Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Improvements at Hetzler Road, P-956.