

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

Meeting Date: 07/08/2013		Item Number: <u>C-2</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Authorization to Submit a Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant Application for the Protected/Permissive Left-Turn Phase Upgrade Project.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Gabriel Garcia/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-5633	
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 (07/02/2013)			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (06/26/13)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (07/01/13)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (07/02/13)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (07/02/13)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to submit a Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant application for the Protected/Permissive Left-Turn Phase Upgrade Project.

BACKGROUND:

On April 29, 2013, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announced a Call for Projects for Cycle 6 of the HSIP. The HSIP is focused on addressing roadway safety issues.

For a project to be eligible for grant funding, an applicant must identify a specific safety concern and substantiate it using historical accident data. The applicant must then propose a project with one or more countermeasures aimed at correcting or substantially improving the condition. Projects are evaluated by weighing their costs against their expected benefits from accident reduction. Applicants can submit multiple projects with a total cost of up to \$3 million (or a formula based on population for larger agencies). A total of roughly \$150 million are available statewide for Cycle 6, and applications are due on July 26, 2013.

DISCUSSION:

Staff reviewed citywide accident data to evaluate any potential safety issues and to identify possible projects. Culver City has a low overall accident rate and

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relatively few areas of safety concern. However, staff has identified the following seven intersections that could benefit from the addition of left-turn phases to further improve safety and reduce potential conflicts between left-turning vehicles and other vehicles, pedestrians, or cyclists proceeding straight: Washington Boulevard/Sepulveda Boulevard, Washington Place/Sepulveda Boulevard, Washington Boulevard/Centinela Avenue, Washington Place/Centinela Avenue, Jefferson Boulevard/Duquesne Avenue, Jefferson Boulevard/Jordan Way, and Jefferson Boulevard/Machado Road. Note: one or more of these intersections may be altered by upcoming development projects. If that occurs, staff will endeavor to coordinate this project with the work required by the developments, as feasible.

The installation of left-turn phases at the proposed seven locations is associated with a relatively high benefit relative to the project cost, and thus staff feels that this project is likely to be competitive for grant funding as well as beneficial to the community.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed Protected Left-Turn Phase Project is anticipated to cost roughly \$1,050,000 (\$150,000 per intersection). Should Caltrans approve the grant application, the City will need to provide 10 percent in local matching funds (\$105,000). Staff anticipates that the matching funding for these projects will come from non-General Fund sources such as Gas Tax. Staff does not anticipate that the project will result in additional traffic signal maintenance, as it consists of upgrades to existing signals (including new signal standards, indications, detection, wiring and controller upgrades) rather than the installation of entirely new traffic signals.

Should the City Council authorize the application and Caltrans select the project for funding, staff will return to the City Council to consider accepting the grant and appropriating both the grant funds and any required match.

MOTIONS:

That the City Council

1. Authorize the City Manager to submit an application for HSIP Grant Funding for the Protected/Permissive Left-Turn Phase Upgrade Project;

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2. Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents; and
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.