

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 01/12/09		Item Number: <u>A-4</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Consideration and Approval of Submission of Federal Appropriations Requests for FY 2009-2010.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Shelly Wolfberg		Phone Number: (310) 253-6008	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☐
Public Notification: Master E-Mail Notification List (01/07/09).			
Department Approval: Martin R. Cole (01/05/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (01/05/08)	
Fiscal Impact Review: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (01/06/09)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (01/07/09)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council authorize the submission of Federal Appropriations Requests for FY 2009-2010 and set the priority ranking of these projects.

BACKGROUND:

In recent years, with the assistance of Culver City's federal advocacy team, CJ Strategies, the City has been successful in obtaining federal appropriations in the amounts of \$2.192 million to widen Sepulveda and Culver Boulevards; \$2 million for preliminary engineering design of the on/off ramp system at the intersection of the I-10 and Robertson/National Boulevards; \$656,000 for the Exposition Light Rail Aerial Station; \$235,000 for the Interagency Interoperable Communications System (ICIS); and \$84,600 for Police Department Computer/Data Equipment.

Each year, the City submits appropriations requests through the City's Senators and Representative for consideration during the Federal budgeting process. Once the appropriations requests are filed, the City continues to work closely with CJ Strategies. The City Council also provides critical support through direct contacts with federal elected officials and their staff. While the Federal budget process does not always result in appropriations requests being approved, the City can be proud of its recent successes, especially given the very difficult fiscal situation in Washington.

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DISCUSSION:

The City's FY 2010 Federal appropriations requests are due to Senators Barbara Boxer's and Dianne Feinstein's offices on February 5, 2009. Congresswoman Watson's office deadline will follow that date.

Executive Management has proposed various projects for the City Council's consideration. These projects were prepared in coordination with our lobbyist in recent weeks. Based on discussions with staff and the advocacy firm, the following suggested prioritization of projects will provide the optimal opportunity for success in the appropriations process:

Staff recommends the following priority ranking of the City's Appropriations Requests:

1. ICIS microwave links for network enhancement and bolstered reliability.

A series of microwave links will be placed in the region to harden the network and make it less vulnerable to failure. One microwave antenna (including associated transmission equipment) will be placed in the west side to specifically benefit Culver City and increase our network assurance. Each ICIS Joint Powers Authority member city is being requested to identify the City's ICIS request as the top priority. The total amount requested is \$250,000.

2. Culver CityBus Replacement.

Culver City will need to replace twenty (20) 40-foot CNG fueled buses that will have reached the end of their useful lives in 2010. Culver City would also like to replace two of the 40' buses with 60' articulated buses for use on a new Bus Rapid Transit program along Sepulveda Boulevard. Culver City would also like to be able to replace the remainder of the buses with CNG-Electrical hybrid buses to achieve even greater energy efficiency. The total amount requested is \$3 Million.

3. SR-90 and I-405 Interchange Feasibility Study.

When State Route 90 (SR-90) was constructed, only three interchange connections were created, connecting it with Interstate 405 (I-405). The connection from Westbound SR-90 to Southbound I-405 was never constructed. This project would provide funding for a feasibility study for the westbound 90-southbound 405 interchange. The total amount requested is \$650,000.

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4. Storm Water Improvement - Trash Removal Devices on Catch Basins.

This project proposes the installation of trash removal devices in 834 catch basins citywide to comply with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulations. The devices will consist of automatic retractable screens along the curb face to keep larger solids out of catch basins and connector pipe screens inside catch basins to retain all debris larger than 5mm. The devices would be installed by the City, and the County has committed to maintaining devices installed in the 597 County-owned catch basins. The total amount requested is \$1,300,000.

5. Solar Street lighting demonstration project.

The City of Culver City will be embarking on a redevelopment project to revitalize a portion of Washington Boulevard. The redevelopment project will enhance the neighborhood with new commercial, office and housing units. To complement the LEED certified buildings that will be developed in this area, and to help sustain “green” technologies, the City will pursue the installation of solar powered street lights in the area. These street lights will be comprised of Light Emitting Diode (LED) bulbs, which are brighter than traditional incandescent and fluorescent bulbs and have a longer life. The solar street light project will involve the replacement of 47 existing 6.6 amps high voltage streets lights with solar lighting. The utilization of LED bulbs will result in energy savings since they will operate on solar and battery power rather than electricity. The total amount requested is \$500,000.

6. Hayden Track/Ballona Creek Bike Trail that promotes pedestrian, transit and bike connectivity.

This proposed project would result in the design and construction of a new connection from the Higuera Street bridge area to the existing Ballona Creek Bike Path. Higuera Street is the western extension of Rodeo Road, just west of Jefferson Boulevard. Culver City is currently proposing to reconstruct and widen the roadway of the existing Higuera Street Bridge over the creek and would like to install a new bike path connection. The Higuera Street-Ballona Creek Bike Path connector would fill a gap in the regional bikeway network, facilitating use of the creek path, which connects bicyclists from Culver City/Los Angeles to the Marvin Braude Bike Path system which provides access to most of the cities along the Santa Monica Bay. The total amount requested is \$400,000.

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7. Traffic Monitoring Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Infill Gap Closure.

This project would result in the purchase and installation of fourteen (14) CCTV cameras at fourteen (14) locations where traffic monitoring voids presently exist in the City's current sixteen (16) CCTV camera fiber optic interconnect system. The City has invested over \$2 million in the CCTV program thus far. This technology enables the City to meet surface street traffic demands and circulation needs in a real time mode. The CCTV technology also allows for greater functionality for national security and local security monitoring efforts.

As mentioned above, staff has worked closely with our federal advocacy team in crafting these proposals to provide the greatest probability of a successful outcome. While the Federal Budget is in the trillions of dollars, given the current multi-billion dollar federal deficit, it is particularly important to target appropriations requests to areas where dollars are most likely to be available. Further, it is possible that the actual dollar amounts for the appropriations requests may change, depending on final figures from the departments.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no direct fiscal impact, since funds will not be proposed in the City's budget for Federal Appropriations. Funding is recognized if and when the funds are eventually received, or when signed documentation by both parties state the absolute receipt of these funds will take place. The latter occurs when the grant is a "reimbursement" type grant. The pursuit of federal appropriations is a part of the annual work program adopted as part of the 2008-2009 City Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve and authorize staff to submit the proposed projects for consideration for Federal Appropriation for FY 2009-2010 and set the priority ranking of these projects as #1 through #7; or
2. Provide other direction to staff as deemed appropriate.