



REPORT TO COUNCIL City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www. CityofSacramento.org

Consent
November 6, 2007

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Safe Routes to Schools Funding

Location/Council District: 1) Sidewalk improvements on Bell Avenue and Pinell Street near Bell Avenue Elementary School. (District 2); and 2) Sidewalk improvements on streets around 28th Street and Atlas Avenue near Ethel Phillips Elementary School. (District 5) Location maps – Exhibit A and Exhibit B of Resolution.

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** authorizing the City Manager to submit applications for the State and Federal Safe Routes to School Grant Programs for new sidewalk improvements for Bell Avenue Elementary School and Ethel Phillips Elementary School.

Contact: Edward Cox, Program Analyst, 808-8434; Theresa Arnold, Special Projects Engineer, 808-5514

Presenters: None

Department: Transportation

Division: Engineering Services

Organization No: 3435

Description/Analysis

Issue: Caltrans has announced a call for project applications for the State Safe Routes to Schools Program which are due November 16, 2007. The call for Federal Safe Routes to Schools Grant application is anticipated in the near future.

Policy Considerations: These projects are consistent with the City's Strategic Plan goal to promote and support economic vitality by investing in infrastructure development to support sustainable growth.

Environmental Considerations: This report is not considered a project as

defined by Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines. The recommended action involves no physical construction and has no potential to cause a significant impact to the environment. An environmental document will be prepared at the time the projects receive funding.

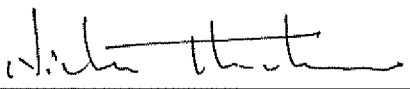
Rationale for Recommendation: Staff recommends submitting one infrastructure application for the State funds and one infrastructure application for the Federal funds. These projects are as follows:

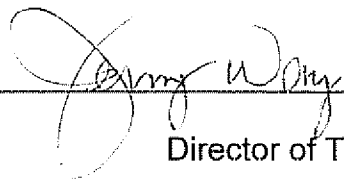
1. Installation of new sidewalks improvements at Bell Avenue School. This project will improve safety for school children that walk or bike on Bell Avenue and Pinell Streets. The maximum funding available to local jurisdictions is \$900,000, with a required 10% local match. The scope of this project will be tailored to use the maximum available funds, and remain competitive.
2. Installation of new sidewalk improvements at Ethel Phillips School. This project will improve safety for school children that walk or bike to Ethel Phillips Elementary School from the neighborhood to the south. The maximum funding available to local jurisdictions is expected to be \$1,000,000. The scope of this project will be tailored to use the maximum available funds, and remain competitive.

Selection of these locations were from the 2006 Transportation Programming Guide (TPG). They were selected because they are the highest ranking locations that best meet the grant funding objectives.

Financial Considerations: State and Federal funding allows leveraging of City funds and will allow the City to deliver priority projects and programs sooner. A 10% local match of funds is required for the State funded projects. The estimated cost for the Bell Avenue Elementary School project and the Ethel Phillips Elementary School project will fall below the maximum allowable \$900,000 with 10% State and Federal Grant Match (PN: TX01).

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): None, since no goods or services are being procured with this action.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
Nicholas Theocharides
Engineering Services Manager

Approved by: 
Jerry Way
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:



RAY KERRIDGE
City Manager

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Attachment 1**Background Information:**

The purpose of the program is to make bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements for school-related travel. There are two Safe Routes to School Grant Programs available to the City. The State funding program has \$25.5 million available statewide for the 2007/2008 fiscal year. The federal grant program provides \$23 million statewide.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the administrator for these grant funds. The following goals for the Safe Routes to School Grant projects are as follows:

State funding:

1. Reducing child injuries and fatalities.
2. Encouraging increased bicycling and walking among students.

Federal funding:

1. Enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school.
2. Make walking and bicycling to school a safer and more appealing lifestyle choice.
3. Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects that improve safety in the vicinity of schools.

Caltrans announced a call for projects in August 2007 for the State Safe Routes to School Grant Program. Project nominations are due by November 16, 2007. At this time, Caltrans has not made a call for Federal Safe Routes to Schools, but it is anticipated they will do so in the near future. The City has applied for both State and Federal Safe Routes to School grants over the past five years. Earlier this year, the City applied for a project at Robla Elementary School, and was awarded Federal grant funds in the amount of \$650,000.

Proposed projects for both of the Safe Routes to School Grant Programs need to be easily deliverable without major right-of-way issues or complex environmental studies. The recommendations for this report are for funding of construction of infrastructure. There is an additional opportunity for funding of non-infrastructure projects and programs that are intended to change community behavior, attitudes and social norms to make it safer for children to walk and bicycle to school.

The Sidewalks to Schools section of the TPG ranks the project at Bell Avenue Elementary School as number 9 on the TPG and the Ethel Phillips Elementary School as number 10. The following list identifies locations that rank higher on the TPG and the justification for not recommending them:

1. Hiram Johnson High School, 65th Street, 14th to 18th Avenues. The City recently completed sidewalks on one side of street. It would not make a strong candidate for funds.

2. Taylor Street Elementary School along Bell Avenue. The north side of Bell Avenue has sidewalks from the development of Robla Park and would not make a strong candidate for funds.
3. Hiram Johnson High School, 65th Street, 18th to 21st Avenues. The City recently completed sidewalks on one side of street. It would not make a strong candidate for funds.
4. Hiram Johnson High School, 65th Street, 21st to Fruitridge Avenues. These streets are too far from the school. It would not make a strong candidate for funds.
5. Luther Burbank High School, Florin Road. Existing sidewalk on the south side of street already provides access to school.
6. Robla Elementary School, Marysville Blvd. Recently awarded Federal State Route to School funds.
7. Barbara Comstock Morse Elementary School along Jacinto Avenue. Recent development has added sidewalks.
8. Union House Elementary School along Mack Road. Existing sidewalk on north side of street provides access to school.

Attachment 2

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**APPLICATION FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FUNDING FOR
BELL AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ETHEL PHILLIPS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

BACKGROUND

- A. The State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has issued a call for projects to receive funding from the State Safe Routes to Schools Program. A call for project for funding for Federal Safe Routes to School is anticipated before the end of the year.
- B. Proposed projects for both of the Safe Routes to School Grant Programs need to be easily deliverable without major right-of-way issues or complex environmental studies. The recommendations for this report are for funding of construction of infrastructure.
- C. Candidate locations were taken from the 2006 Transportation Programming Guide. They were selected because they are the highest ranking locations that best meet the grant funding objectives.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

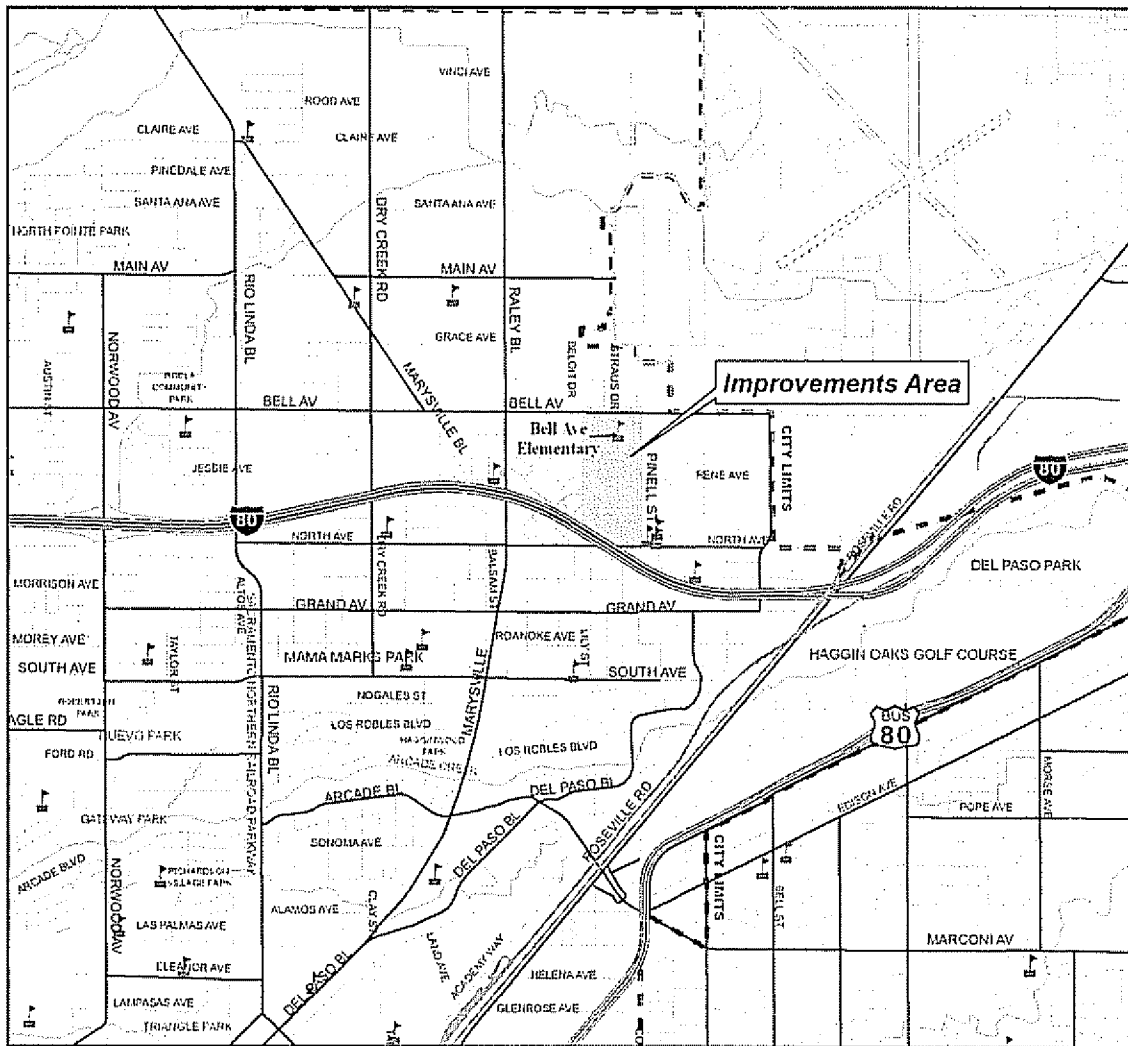
- Section 1. The Director of Transportation is authorized to submit an application for funding to the Safe Routes to School Grant Program for new sidewalk improvements for Bell Avenue Elementary School at Bell Avenue and Pinell Street. This project is to be submitted for State Safe Routes to School funding.
- Section 2. The Director of Transportation is authorized to submit an application for funding to the Safe Routes to School Grant Program for new sidewalk improvements for Ethel Phillips Elementary School at 28th Street and Atlas Avenue. This project is to be submitted for Federal Safe Routes to School funding.

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- Exhibit A: Map of Bell Avenue Elementary School Improvements – 1 page
- Exhibit B: Map of Ethel Phillips Avenue Elementary School Improvements – 1 page

EXHIBIT A

Location Map for Improvements at Bell Avenue Elementary School



Department of
TRANSPORTATION
City of Sacramento

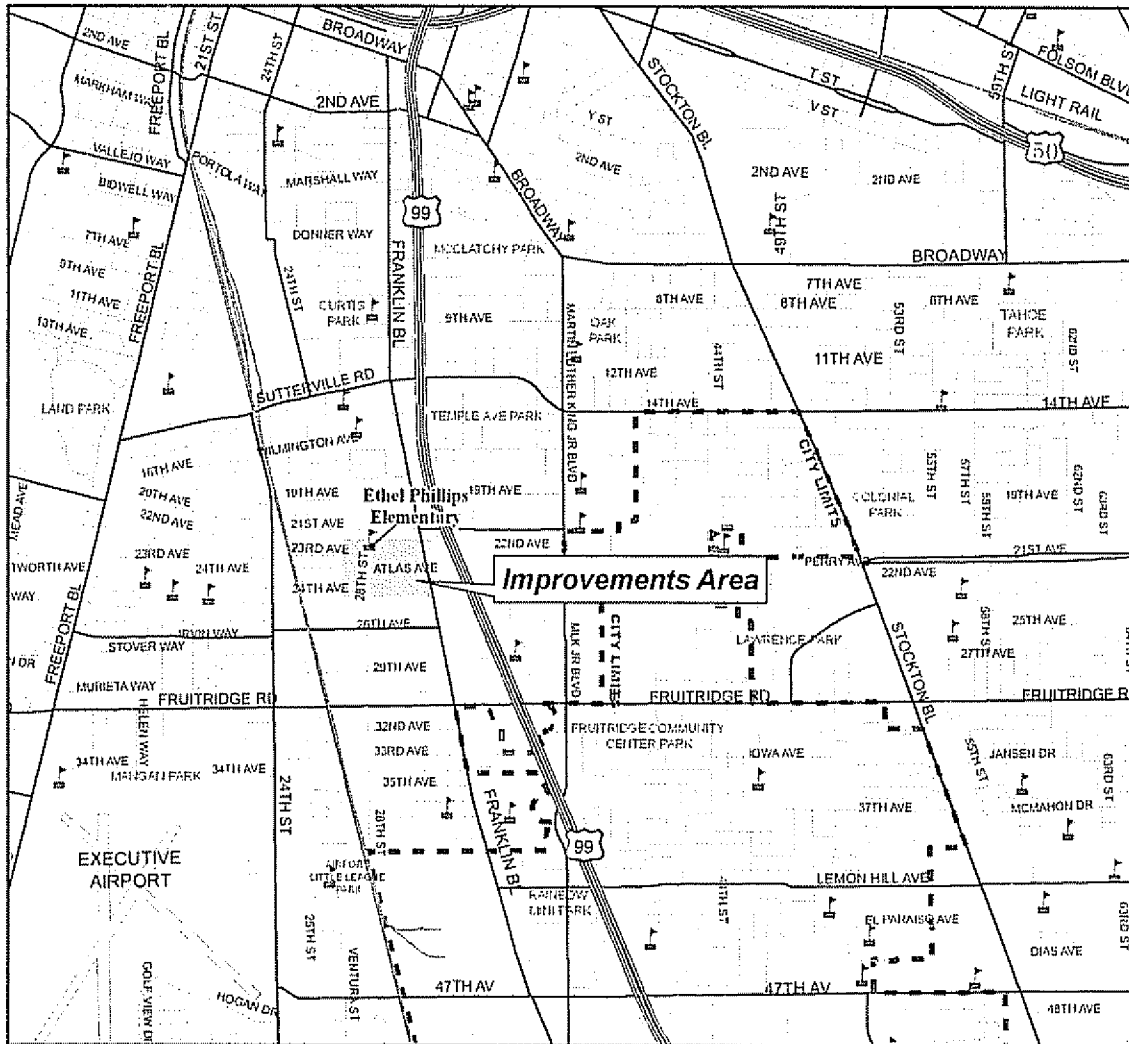
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Map Date: October, 07

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EXHIBIT B

Location Map for Improvements at Ethel Phillips Elementary School



Department of
TRANSPORTATION
City of Sacramento

Map Contact: S Tobin
Map Date: October, 07

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