

REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

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



CONSENT
February 3, 2009

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

**Title: Approval of Federal Transportation Priorities for FY10 Appropriations –
Folsom Boulevard Development - Ramona Avenue Extension Project**

Location/Council District: District 3

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** directing staff to seek federal FY10 Transportation Appropriations Funding of \$6 million for the Folsom Boulevard Development- Ramona Avenue Extension Project.

Contact: Azadeh Doherty, Principal Planner, 808-3137

Presenters: None

Department: Transportation

Division: Planning and Policy

Organization No: 15001041

Description/Analysis

Issue: The Federal Platform approved by the City of Sacramento is used to help the City Council set priorities for state and federal funding opportunities. The City Council is scheduled to review and approve the 2009 Federal Platform in mid-February. The Folsom Boulevard Development – Ramona Avenue Extension Project is a high priority project for the City of Sacramento and has been on the list of transportation projects recommended in the Federal Platform for several years. This year, the applications for Federal Appropriations requests are due on February 5, 2009. Due to time constraints, staff recommends submitting an application for \$6 million for the Folsom Boulevard Development - Ramona Avenue Extension Project in this year's federal appropriations process in advance of formal approval of the Federal Platform by the City Council.

Policy Considerations: The actions contained in this report are consistent with Council policies seeking federal and state funds to leverage against local funds. The projects recommended for funding are consistent with the City of

Sacramento's Strategic Plan goal to expand economic development throughout the City.

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Council action designating the Folsom Boulevard Development – Ramona Avenue Extension Project for a federal appropriations request is not subject to CEQA and National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), however, the project will be delivered in accordance with CEQA and NEPA.

Sustainability Considerations: This action supports the City of Sacramento's sustainability goals to improve and optimize the transportation infrastructure.

Other: None

Rationale for Recommendation: In addition to the Folsom Boulevard Development project, the 2009 Federal Platform includes the following transportation projects: the Intermodal Facility, the Cosumnes River Boulevard Extension and Interchange, the R Street Corridor Improvements and the North Central Business District (Richards Blvd. /I-5 Interchange Improvements). The following is a brief analysis as to why staff recommends the Folsom Boulevard Development project over these other Federal Platform projects in the 2009 appropriations process.

Since the Downtown Intermodal Facility project continues to be the region's number one priority project, Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) has agreed to submit an appropriations request for the Intermodal Facility project (track relocation phase) in the amount of \$14.6 million.

The Cosumnes River Boulevard project requires major federal investment of up to \$50 million. Since this project is ready for construction in summer of 2009, it is a prime candidate for funding through the Federal Economic Stimulus package. Based on past experience, appropriations requests usually produce approximately \$1 to \$5 million in federal funding which at this time is not enough to advance the Cosumnes River Blvd. project into construction.

The R Street project was the City's only request in last year's appropriations cycle. However, due to the 2008 elections, the appropriations process was derailed and none of the projects received new federal funding. In the meantime, the R Street project was awarded a SACOG Community Design grant to complete its funding request for Phase 1 (10th to 13th Streets) of the project. The Second Phase of the R Street project (16th to 18th Streets) and the Richards Blvd./I-5 Interchange are not ready for federal funding since they have not completed their federal level environmental clearance reviews.

Staff concluded that the Ramona Avenue Extension Project is the most logical project to be chosen for this year's appropriations request. The proposed project is located along Folsom Boulevard and Ramona Avenue. The 65th Street Station Study identifies this area as a developing transit village consistent with the principles of Transit Oriented Development (TOD). The Ramona Avenue Extension project will be a key transportation facility that will connect the future planned development in this area.

Financial Considerations: If the City of Sacramento is successful in obtaining appropriation funds, it will be required to provide up to a twenty percent local match. Staff will return at a later date to receive Council approval to appropriate the matching funds which will be derived from various local transportation funds. No funding from the General Fund will be used.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Not applicable as no goods or services are being procured.

Respectfully Submitted by: *Francesca L. Halbakken*
Francesca L. Halbakken
Operations Manager

Approved by: *Jerry Way*
Jerry Way
Director of Transportation

Recommendation Approved:

Ray
Ray Kerridge
Ray Kerridge
City Manager

Table of Contents:

	Pg	1-3	Report
Attachments			
1	Pg	4	Background
2	Pg	5	Resolution
	Pg	6	Exhibit A- Project Location Map

ATTACHMENT 1**BACKGROUND**

The Southeast Area Transportation (SEAT) Study was approved by the City Council in 1999 and identified the Ramona Avenue Extension as a key transportation facility for vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle operations. The project involves construction of:

- A new 2-lane roadway that would extend from the terminus of Ramona Avenue to Folsom Boulevard.
- Bike lanes and sidewalks.
- A new signal at the intersection of Ramona Avenue and Folsom Boulevard that will include a “bus only” lane from eastbound Folsom Boulevard.

The 65th Street Station Study identifies this area which is adjacent to the California State University Sacramento (CSUS) campus as a Transit Oriented Development (TOD). This project is critical to the success of this TOD.

CSUS anticipates developing the California Youth Authority (CYA) property which is, a 25-acre parcel located along Ramona Avenue. In addition, the area west of Power Inn Road and east of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks has been identified as a special planning area in the City’s 2030 General Plan and, in partnership with CSUS, is slated for development into a technical center. The Ramona Avenue Extension will provide circulation between the CSUS campus and the planned development in this area.

The total cost of the construction of this project is estimated to be \$10.1 million. Currently, the City has secured approximately \$1.3 million from federal and local sources to fund the environmental and design phase of the project. If the City is successful in its attempt to receive \$6 million in federal funds for the construction phase, the remaining \$4 million will have to be derived from various local transportation funding sources.

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**APPROVING FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES FOR FY10
APPROPRIATIONS FOR FOLSOM BOULEVARD DEVELOPMENT
RAMONA AVENUE EXTENSION PROJECT**

BACKGROUND

- A. The Federal Platform approved by the City of Sacramento is used to help the City Council set priorities for state and federal funding opportunities.
- B. The Folsom Boulevard Development – Ramona Avenue Extension Project is one of the top transportation projects listed in the City’s Federal Platform.
- C. Federal funding is needed for the construction of the Folsom Boulevard Development – Ramona Avenue Extension Project.
- D. Environmental and engineering work on this project is underway.
- E. The construction cost of the project is estimated at \$10.1 million and the City will seek \$6 million in federal funding to pay for a portion of the construction cost.

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

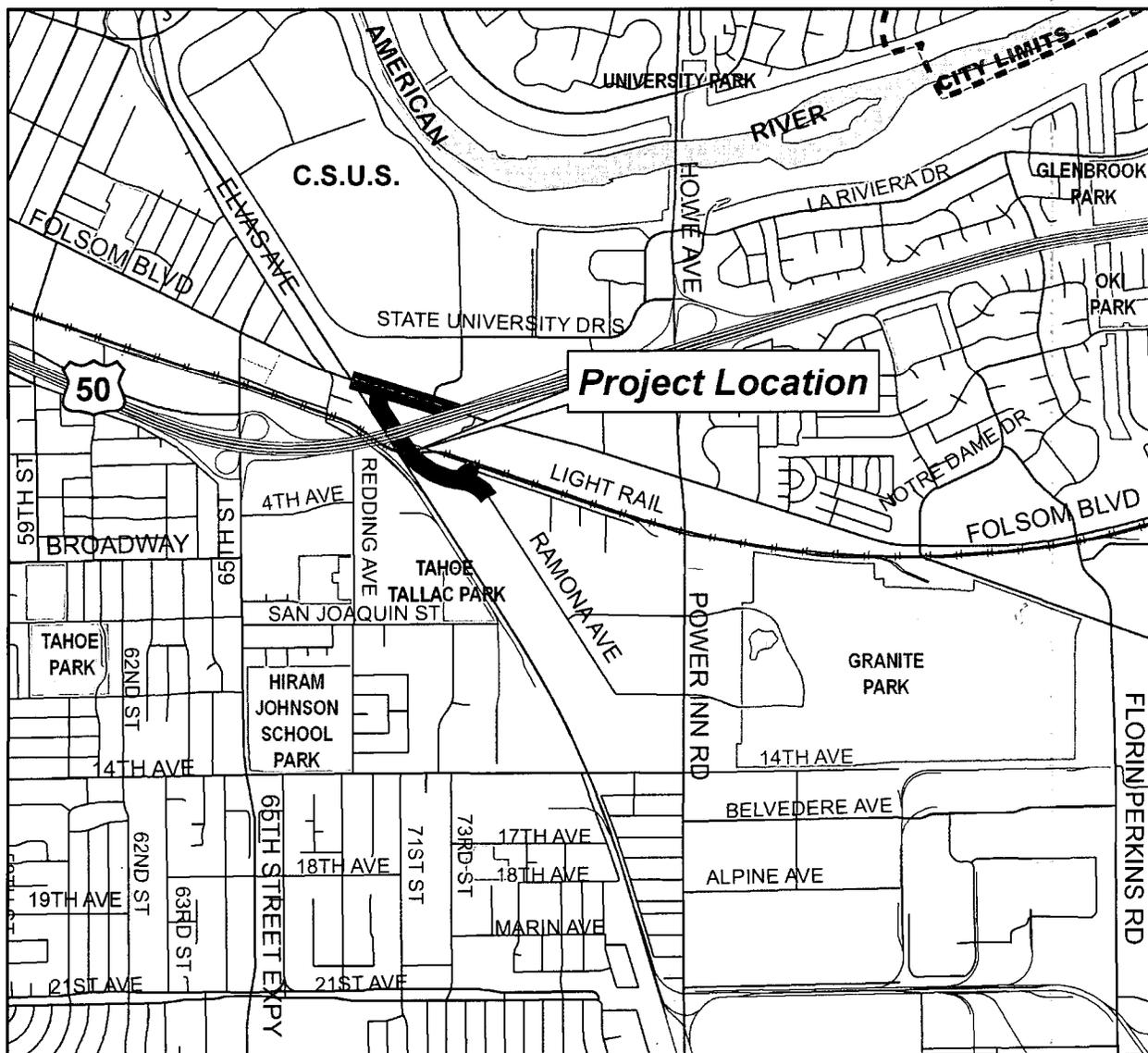
Section 1. Staff is directed to seek federal FY10 Transportation Appropriations funding in the amount of \$6 million for the Folsom Boulevard Development – Ramona Avenue Extension Project.

Table of Contents:

Exhibit A Project Location Map

EXHIBIT A

Location Map for Ramona Avenue Extension (PN: T15018400)



Department of
TRANSPORTATION
City of Sacramento

Map Contact: S. Tobin
Map Date: April, 2008

0 500 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 Feet



