

REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

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

Consent
April 14, 2009

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Safe Routes to Schools Funding

Location/Council District: Sidewalk improvements on Bell Avenue and Pinell Street near Bell Avenue Elementary School. (District 2). Location map – Exhibit A of Resolution.

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for the State Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program for new sidewalk improvements for Bell Avenue Elementary School.

Contact: Edward Cox, Program Analyst, 808-8434; Ryan Moore, Supervising Engineer (916) 808-8279

Presenters: None

Department: Transportation

Division: Engineering Services

Organization No: 15001141

Description/Analysis

Issue: Caltrans has announced a call for project applications for the State Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program which are due April 15, 2009.

Policy Considerations: Funding this project is 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:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): The application to apply for State Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program is not subject to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Under CEQA general rule 15061-B-3, CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. These actions will have no effect on the environment, thus are not subject to CEQA.

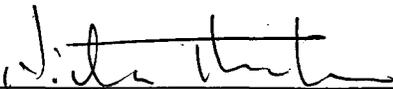
Sustainability Considerations: The project is consistent with Sustainability Master Plan goals to help to enhance the pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the public right-of-way and to encourage pedestrian and bicycle trips, which promotes the use of alternate modes of transportation.

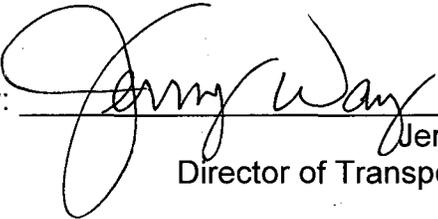
Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: Staff recommends submitting installation of new sidewalk and bike lane improvements at Bell Avenue Elementary School. This project will improve safety for children that walk or bike on Bell Avenue and Pinell Street. Selection of this location was taken from the 2008 Transportation Programming Guide (TPG). It was selected because it is the highest ranking location that best meets the grant funding objectives. State grant funding allows leveraging of City funds and will allow the City to deliver priority projects and programs sooner.

Financial Considerations: The estimated cost for the Bell Avenue Elementary School project will fall below the State Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program maximum allowable grant of \$900,000. A 10% local match is required. If the Bell Avenue Elementary School project is selected the 10% required match will be provided from the State and Federal Grant Match Program (T15007200). There are no General Funds planned or allocated for this project.

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:

Ben

Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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Attachment 1**Background**

The purpose of the State Safe Routes to Schools Program is to make bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements for school-related travel. The State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the administrator for grant funds to make these improvements. The goals for the program are to reduce injuries and fatalities to school children and to encourage increased bicycling and walking among students.

Caltrans announced a call for projects in January 2009 for the State Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program. Project nominations are due by April 15, 2009. The City has applied for and received both State and Federal Safe Routes to Schools grants over the past seven years.

Proposed projects for the Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program need to be easily deliverable without major right-of-way issues or complex environmental studies. The recommendations in this report are for funding infrastructure construction.

The Pedestrian Improvements section of the Transportation Programming Guide (TPG) ranks the project at Bell Avenue Elementary School as number 8. Three of the seven listed locations that rank higher than the Bell Avenue Elementary School project are eligible candidates for this grant funding source. The following list identifies locations that rank higher on the TPG and the justification for not recommending them:

1. Fruitridge Road (Wallace to 79th) - District 6. Project is already funded.
2. Florin Road (Woodbine to Loma Verde) – Districts 5 and 8. Project is already funded.
3. El Camino Avenue (Green to Selma) – District 2. Location not related to a route to school.
4. Freeport Boulevard (35th to Belleauwood) – Districts 4 and 5. Location not related to a route to school.
5. Atlas Avenue, 23rd, 24th Ave – District 5. Project is already funded.
6. Franklin Boulevard (33rd to 36th) - District 5. While adjacent to a school, this is not a strong candidate as a safe route to school. A safe route already exists.
7. Richards Boulevard. (Bercut to N 3rd) - District 1. Location not related to a route to school.

Attachment 2

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**APPLICATION FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS FUNDING FOR
BELL AVENUE 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 Grant Program.
- B. Proposed projects for the Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program need to be easily deliverable without major right-of-way issues or complex environmental studies. The recommendations for this report are for funding infrastructure construction.
- C. The candidate location was taken from the 2008 Transportation Programming Guide (TPG). It was selected because it is the highest ranking location that best meets 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 Schools 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 Schools funding.

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- Exhibit A: Location Map of Bell Avenue Elementary School

EXHIBIT A

Location Map for
Improvements at
Bell Avenue Elementary School



Department of
TRANSPORTATION
City of Sacramento

Map Contact: S. Tobin
Map Date: Mar, 2009

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Miles



