



City of Sacramento City Council

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

Meeting Date: 9/06/2011

Report Type: Consent

Title: Submission of Application for Funding Under the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP)

Report ID: 2011-00801

Location: District 8

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution supporting the submission of an application for the Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park Improvement Project for funding under the State Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP).

Contact: Lucinda Willcox, Program Manager, (916) 808-5052; Nicholas Theocharides, Engineering Services Manager, (916) 808-5065, Department of Transportation

Presenter: None

Department: Transportation Department

Division: Engineering Services Admin

Dept ID: 15001111

Attachments:

- 1-Description/Analysis
- 2 - Background Information
- 3 - Resolution
- 4 - Location Map

City Attorney Review

Approved as to Form
 Jerry Hicks
 9/6/2011 2:51:14 PM

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Department Director or Designee: Jerry Way - 9/6/2011 1:17:49 PM

Description/Analysis

Issue: Caltrans and the California Natural Resources Agency have released guidelines and application for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP). Eligible projects must be directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of the modification of an existing transportation facility or construction of a new transportation facility. The Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park Improvement Project meets all these criteria, as it includes improvements needed to offset impacts related to Jibboom Street construction.

Policy Considerations: The project is consistent with the River District Specific Plan, the Sacramento Riverfront Master Plan, the City's 2030 General Plan, the River District Redevelopment Plan and Implementation Plan.

Environmental Considerations: An application for funding is not considered a project as defined by Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines. The activity does not involve physical construction and has no potential to cause a significant impact on the environment (CEQA Section 15061(b)(3)).

Sustainability Considerations: This project is consistent with the City Sustainability Plan by focusing on improvements to offset greenhouse gas emissions and other impacts related to traffic on Jibboom Street and encouraging walking and bicycling.

Other: None

Commission/Committee Action: None

Rationale for Recommendation: Staff is recommending that Council support the Powerhouse Science Center in submitting the Robert T. Matsui Park Improvement Project as it best meets the grant criteria and supports the development of an important recreational and cultural facility.

Financial Considerations: This grant application will seek up to \$350,000 in state funds to support the development of the Robert T. Matsui Park as part of the Powerhouse Science Center Project.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Not applicable.



Background

The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) was established by the Legislature in 1989 to fund projects that directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of the modification of an existing transportation facility or construction of a new transportation facility. The California Natural Resources Agency and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) have released Guidelines and Application for projects. The application is due September 12, 2011.

Grants for individual projects are generally limited to \$350,000 each. The project must meet the following criteria:

- Mitigation and enhancement of environmental damage caused by the transportation facility
- Meeting statewide project goals, including reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Local cash contributions
- Project readiness
- Suitability, sustainability, cost effectiveness, and other benefits and community participation

Recommended Project

Based on these criteria and evaluation of funding needs, staff recommends supporting the Powerhouse Science Center in submitting a grant application for improvements to the Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park that is being improved in connection with the development of the Powerhouse Science Center.

The Powerhouse Science Center (PHSC) is planning to convert the former PG&E Power State B site, located on Jibboom Street, into a science, space, and technology museum with a restaurant, educational center, and planetarium in a new building, and create an inviting open space park area with amphitheater.

In connection with the development of the Powerhouse Science Center, the adjacent Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park will be expanded and enhanced with interpretative signage and exhibits. Park enhancements are needed to complete the enhancements to the park, as well as to mitigate the noise and traffic impacts from the expansion of Jibboom Street currently under contract.

On April 14, 2011, the Powerhouse Science Center was awarded a \$7 million grant from Proposition 84 Nature Education Facilities committee.



RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS BY THE POWERHOUSE SCIENCE CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM UNDER THE SECTION 164.56 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE FOR THE ROBERT T. MATSUI WATERFRONT PARK IMPROVEMENTS

BACKGROUND

- A. The Legislature of the State of California has enacted AB 471 (Chapter 106 of the Statutes of 1989), which is intended to provide \$10 million annually for a period of 10 years for grant funds to local, state, and federal agencies and nonprofit entities for projects to enhance and mitigate the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities.
- B. The Natural Resources Agency has established the procedures and criteria for reviewing grant proposals and is required to submit to the California Transportation Commission a list of recommended projects from which the grant recipients will be selected.
- C. The City has granted a lease for the Powerhouse Science Center to develop and operate on City-owned property.
- D. Staff has evaluated eligible projects against the grant criteria, and supports the submission of an application for the Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park Improvements by the Powerhouse Science Center.

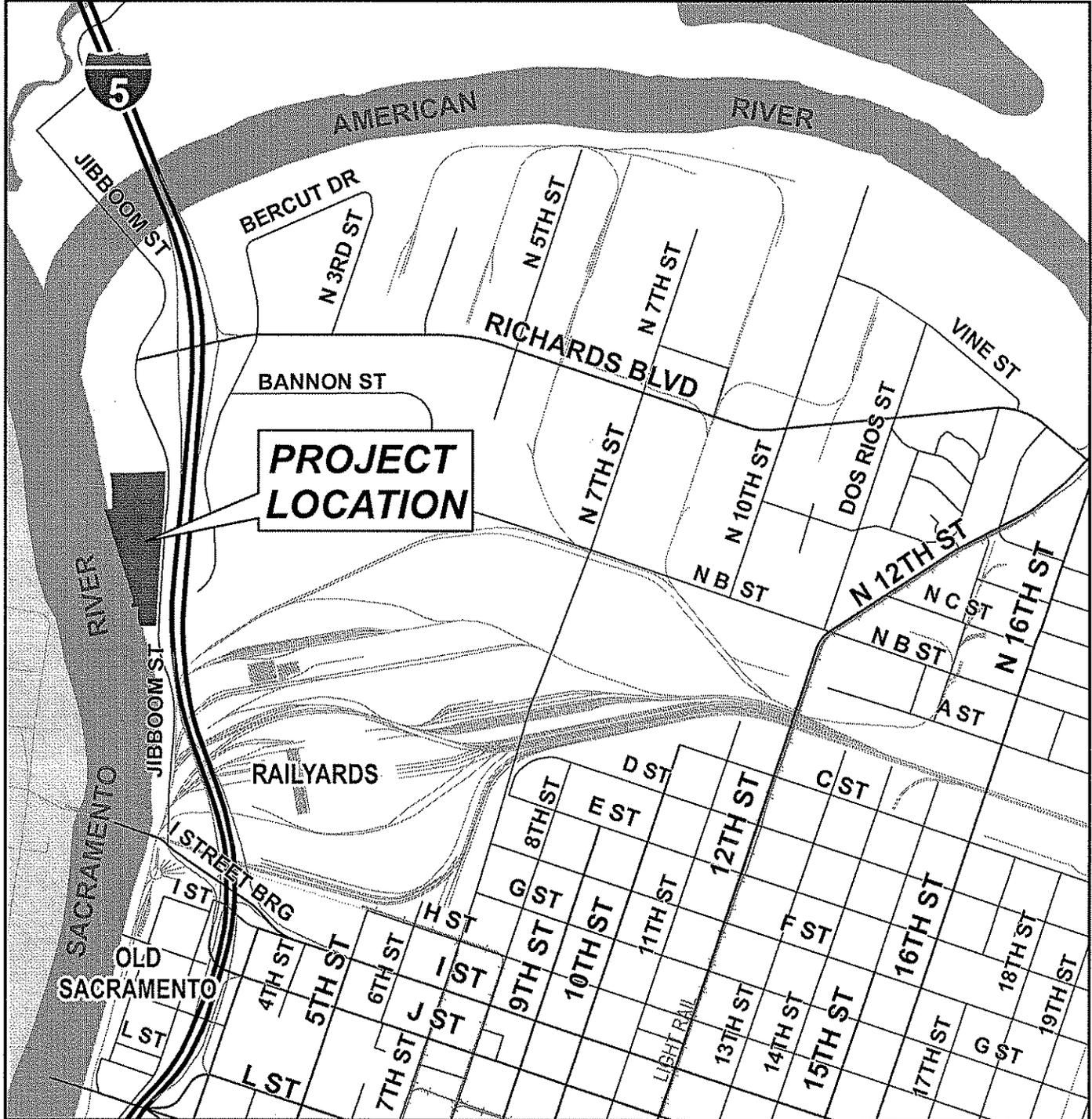
BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. Supports the Powerhouse Science Center in the filing of an application for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program for grant assistance for the Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park enhancements.

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Exhibit A: Location Map

Location Map for ROBERT T. MATSUI WATERFRONT PARK IMPROVEMENTS



Map Contact: S. Tobin
Map Date: August/11

