

Date: July 24, 2007

Committee Meeting Date: August 9, 2007

Board Meeting Date: August 30, 2007

BOARD MEMORANDUM

ACTION X DISCUSSION INFO

TO: Technical Advisory Committee
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Board of Directors

THROUGH: Michael T. Burns
General Manager

FROM: John H. Ristow
Acting Chief CMA Officer

SUBJECT: FY07/08 Local Streets & County Roads (LS & CR) Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and recommend that the VTA Board of Directors approve project priorities for the FY07/08 Local Streets & County Roads Capital Program as shown in Attachment A.

BACKGROUND:

The LS & CR program was established as a new program in the Valley Transportation Plan 2030 (VTP 2030). The LS & CR Program Goals are to:

- Increase connectivity of local streets and county roads as a means to (a) shorten trips by all modes, (b) improve pedestrian and bicycle access, (c) improve transit routing, and (d) keep shorter trips off the regional freeway and expressway system.
- Provide funding for local transportation projects not directly connected to, or fully funded, by new development.

A project must be evaluated and compete in a two-phase process to receive grant funding through the LS & CR program. The VTA Board of Directors adopted criteria to be used for both phases, Project Selection and Programming Procedures on March 6, 2003.

Phase 1, the Project Selection phase, previously occurred in Fall 2003 as VTP 2030 was being developed. During that phase, projects were submitted by the fifteen cities and County of Santa Clara to VTA for review and consideration for inclusion in VTP 2030. Projects are only eligible to compete in Phase 2 if they are included on the VTP 2030 LS& CR list.

Phase 2, the Programming phase whereby projects receive funding is the subject of this memorandum.

Acting in its capacity as the Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for Santa Clara County, the VTA Board approved an allocation of up to \$20 million in Local Program Reserve funds to LS & CR Program at its February 1, 2007 meeting and re-affirmed the commitment at the June 7, 2007 meeting. The next step of the process is to develop a list of projects to receive the funding.

DISCUSSION:

VTA issued a call for projects to member agencies on March 7, 2007. Eleven project sponsors submitted 21 applications, which were reviewed and scored on August 3, 2007 by Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Scoring Subcommittee of the Technical Advisory Committee. This scoring committee consisted of staff from Member Agency planning and public works departments.

The scoring committee ranked the 21 projects based on the LS & CR policies and scoring criteria established by the VTA Board of Directors in March 2003. The criteria include items covering Project Readiness (50 points), Local Match (20 points), Systems Optimization (15 points) and Geographic Equity (15 points) for a possible total of 100 points.

The Scoring Committee's recommendations are summarized in Attachment A.

ALTERNATIVES:

The VTA Board may choose an alternative list of project priorities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Up to \$20 million in funding will be made available to LS & CR projects in Santa Clara County. The funding for the LS & CR Program is derived from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) that VTA, as the CMA, is responsible to program. In February of 2007, the VTA Board of Directors authorized an exchange of \$57 million in STIP funds for \$57 million in 2000 Measure A funds to establish the Local Program Reserve to be used for funding LS & CR Program.

Prepared by: Bill Hough, Transportation Planner III
Reviewed by: Marcella M. Rensi, Programming & Grants Manager

Attachment A to follow after LS&CR scoring committee meets on August 3.