

Date: July 31, 2006Committee Meeting Date: September 21, 2006Board Meeting Date: October 5, 2006**BOARD MEMORANDUM**ACTION  X  DISCUSSION       INFO      

**TO:** Congestion Management Program and Planning Committee  
 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
 Board of Directors

**THROUGH:** Michael T. Burns  
 General Manager

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**FROM:** Carolyn M. Gonot  
 Chief Development Officer

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**SUBJECT:** FY 2006/07 and FY 2007/08 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funding  
 for Bicycle Expenditure Program Projects

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the programming of approximately \$4.8 million in FY 2006/07 and FY 2007/08 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds for six Bicycle Expenditure Program bicycle and pedestrian projects.

**BACKGROUND:**

At its May 5, 2005 meeting, the VTA Board approved a \$3.3-million fund exchange with MTC. VTA provided \$3.3 million in Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) 40% funds from the FY 2006, 2007 and 2008 programming cycles to MTC's Vehicle Buy-Back Program in exchange for \$3.3 million in federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. This exchange was necessary to allow VTA continued programming flexibility in light of changing TFCA requirements, and allow the VTA Board to use CMAQ funds for projects in the Bicycle Expenditure Program (BEP).

At its April 2006 meeting, the VTA Board of Directors approved the programming of \$1.39 million of the \$3.3 million CMAQ exchange funds to County Roads and Airports for Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements on Almaden Expressway between Ironwood and Koch, leaving a balance of \$1.91 million for later programming. In addition, MTC recently made available \$2.95 million in CMAQ funds from the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

(RBPP) funds for VTA bicycle and pedestrian project programming in fiscal year 07/08. Combined, these funds total \$4.85 million.

**DISCUSSION:**

Not all BEP projects qualify for CMAQ funding. The BEP projects selected for CMAQ must meet the following criteria:

- Request a minimum grant of \$150,000;
- Provide at least 11.5% in local cash match for each grant funded phase<sup>1</sup>;
- Complete a federal environmental document;
- Design and construct the project in accordance with the VTA Bicycle Technical Guidelines;
- Obligate all CMAQ funds by May 30 of the year in which they are programmed, with no programming later than FY 2007/08; and
- Meet all requirements of the MTC Regional Project Delivery Policy.

In April 2006, VTA issued a call-for-projects to all Member Agencies to submit CMAQ funding requests for projects that are in the current VTA Bicycle Expenditure Program (BEP). VTA received responses from six agencies totaling eight projects. Two of these projects were removed from consideration at this time because they are not currently in the BEP and are not prepared to obligate funds by the end of FY 2008. The remaining project requests total \$4.82 million. Staff recommends the projects listed in the table below for CMAQ grants for the indicated fiscal years.

<b>Project Sponsor</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Recommended CMAQ Funding Allocation</b>
<b><u>FY 2006/07</u></b>		
Los Altos	Adobe Creek Bridge Replacement	\$300,000
Saratoga	De Anza Trail	\$1,400,000
	<b>Subtotal for FY 2006/07</b>	<b>\$1,700,000</b>
<b><u>FY 2007/08</u></b>		
Morgan Hill	West Little Llagas Creek Bike Trail Phase 2	\$543,000
Santa Clara County Roads & Airports	Expressway Bicycle Shoulder Delineation	\$250,000
Sunnyvale	Borregas Avenue Pedestrian Overcrossing	\$1,895,000 <sup>2</sup>
Los Altos Hills	El Monte/ Moody Road Bicycle Pedestrian Improvements	\$440,000
	<b>Subtotal for FY 2007/08</b>	<b>\$3,128,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL CMAQ ALLOCATION:</b>	<b>\$4,828,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> The 11.5% may be used as part of the BEP minimum overall project match of 20%.

<sup>2</sup> Includes an additional \$215k remaining in the BEP for programming to this project.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The VTA Board may approve some or all of the projects for programming or choose to adjust the amounts of grant funding for the projects. The VTA Board may also instruct VTA staff to return with other projects for programming

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This action will make \$4.828 million in federal CMAQ funds available for six projects in FY 2006/07 and 2007/08. There is no effect on the VTA Enterprise fund.

Prepared by: Michelle DeRobertis, Senior Transportation Planner  
Reviewed by: Chris Augenstein, Transportation Planning Manager