



Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Fahey and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Neil C. Miller, Director of Public Works
Dana Greenwood, City Engineer

DATE: September 6, 2005

SUBJECT: Approve Agreement with the County of Los Angeles assigning Federal Surface Transportation Program funds (\$154,000) to the County for use on the Highland Avenue Overlay Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council pass a motion approving an agreement assigning the City's available Federal Surface Transportation Program funds (\$154,000) to the County of Los Angeles for use on the Highland Avenue Overlay Project and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

The Highland Avenue Overlay Project is included in the Capital Improvement Plan as a project to be undertaken in the fiscal year 2006-07. Approval of the recommended agreement will ensure that the Federal funds are available for use on this project at that time.

DISCUSSION:

Background

As noted above, the Highland Avenue Overlay Project is scheduled for fiscal year 2006-07. The project scope calls for grinding and overlaying the street between 15th Street and 45th Street. This project has been delayed several times waiting for completion of other projects:

- Completion of six storm drain projects which allowed the cross-gutters to be removed. The last of these projects is currently under construction (15th Place/Highland Avenue Storm Drain).
- Completion of Utility Underground Districts 3, 5, and 6 (if approved) the utility crossings associated with these districts.

Accordingly, by summer 2006, all anticipated conflicting work should be completed and it would

be appropriate at that time to wrap up Highland Avenue (which has not been resurfaced in 20 years).

The Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and SB1435 of 1992 created the Surface Transportation Program (STP) 110% Guaranteed Funds Program to provide funding for improvement of non-residential streets that are a part of the County's select system of streets (generally arterials and collector streets). STP funds apportioned by formula to jurisdictions are referred to as STP-Local funds. The MTA is responsible for tracking and monitoring STP-L fund balances for Los Angeles County. The MTA Board of Directors adopted a lapsing policy for STP-L funds in 1996. This lapsing policy requires agencies to obligate STP-L funds within three years of their being available.

The City of Manhattan Beach currently has \$154,000 in STP-L funds left over from the last Highway Bill which have not been obligated or set aside for a specific project. The City has until September 30 to obligate these funds. One way to obligate these funds is to assign them to another agency for use on a specific project. Staff is therefore recommending approval of this agreement assigning these funds to Los Angeles County for use on the upcoming Highland Avenue Overlay Project. This action will satisfy the MTA's obligation requirement and ensure that these funds are available for use on the project when it goes to construction next fiscal year.

Future Project Milestones

The MTA also has a policy which allows agencies to "spend ahead" up to six years of future STP-L apportionments. Staff is currently working with the County's staff to develop a project funding agreement for the Highland Avenue Overlay Project. Staff anticipates that this agreement will be available for Council's consideration this fall with construction projected to start in summer 2006. The agreement would include a funding plan to "spend ahead" six years of STP-L apportions (estimated to be \$650,000) as well as augment the project funding with Proposition C funds, if necessary.

At that time, staff will also be in a position to make recommendations on embellishments to the original project scope. These additional items for the Council's consideration would include the landscaping improvements and construction of stamped concrete crosswalks in the North End Business District.

Attachments: a) Agreement with Los Angeles County (not available in electronic format)
b) GIS Map

xc: Henry Mitzner, Controller

City of Manhattan Beach

Highland Ave Street Overlay Project

