



**DATE:** October 26, 2017

**TO:** Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

**FROM:** Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director  
David Chan, Programming Manager  
Scott McDonald, Senior Transportation Planner

**SUBJECT:** Programming of 2017 TFCA and TDA Article 3 Funds (Action) - Agenda Item No. 9c

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve project priorities as shown in Attachment B for the 2017 Multi-Fund Call for Projects, programming TFCA and TDA Article 3 funds.

On October 9, TAM staff presented the list of projects and funding recommendations (reflected in Attachment B) to the Programming & Projects Executive Committee. The Committee unanimously approved staff's recommendation.

## **BACKGROUND**

TAM annually receives Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 funds from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for projects that reduce vehicle emissions and bicycle/pedestrian projects, respectively. The Air District has the discretion to review projects based on their ability to reduce emissions and must approve all projects which are submitted.

This year TAM staff issued a Multi-Fund Call for Projects on May 9, 2017, with approximately \$107,094 in TFCA funds and \$237,622 (this figure was later revised from a previous estimate of 239,978 tentatively listed in the call) in TDA Article 3 funds for a total of \$344,716 available for programming through the call for projects.

Note that TAM received a total amount of \$473,094 in TFCA funding for this fiscal year. However, during One Bay Area Grant Cycle 2, the TAM Board previously approved \$366,000 of future FY17/18 TFCA funding in July 2016 for the following project: Corte Madera's Tamal Vista Boulevard Corridor Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements. A remaining \$107,094 was therefore available as part of the Call for Projects.

## **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

By the application deadline of June 26, 2017, three applications were received from three sponsors. Staff reviewed and evaluated the applications in accordance to the following criteria: safety, gap closure or connectivity, regional significance, readiness, complete funding plan, observed usage, and leverage with other funds. These applications included the following:

- City of San Rafael's Francisco Blvd West Multi-Use Path 2nd to Andersen (Request for the entire \$344,716 in available TFCA/TDA funds)

- City of Larkspur's Magnolia Ave Bike Route 15 & Pedestrian Improvements (Request for the entire \$237,622 in TDA Funds)
- City of Mill Valley's Camino Alto Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements (Request for the entire \$344,716 in available TFCA/TDA funds)

A complete project description is included in Attachment A.

#### Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

The TAM BPAC met on October 3, 2017 to review the applications and recommend funding levels. After the sponsors commented on behalf of their projects, the BPAC deliberated on the merits of each project relative to the funds available and made recommendations.

#### BPAC Recommendations for TFCA/TDA Funds:

For the TDA funds, the BPAC agreed with staff that the City of Larkspur's Magnolia Ave Bike Route 15 & Pedestrian Improvements Project and the City of Mill Valley's Camino Alto Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements Project should be recommended given that each of the projects are shovel ready and with the scarce resources available to fund projects this cycle although the City of San Rafael's Francisco Blvd West Multi-Use Path 2nd to Andersen project was highly valued, the current funding through the call was insufficient to deliver its needed improvements.

With the limited TFCA and TDA funding to be recommended for programming, the BPAC did not recommend programming funds to the City of San Rafael's project, however the committee commented that the project was highly needed for improving connectivity to downtown San Rafael and encouraged that TAM staff seek other resources with the City to identify necessary funding in the future.

The City of Larkspur staff explained at the meeting that while they had requested the full TDA Article 3 amount available in their application, of which 237,622 is available, that the City would also be willing to potentially receive less funding if necessary but this might require scaling back elements from the project. The City of Mill Valley staff suggested that if less funding was awarded, the City would still be able to move forward to implement their project as well.

Based on a recommendation from the BPAC, concurring with TAM staff's initial review, the City of Larkspur and City of Mill Valley would split the total available funding.

Per the abovementioned recommendation, \$172,358 in TDA Article 3 funds would be programmed to the City of Larkspur's Magnolia Ave Bike Route 15 & Pedestrian Improvements Project and the City of Mill Valley's Camino Alto Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements would be programmed the full \$107,094 TFCA funding along with the remaining \$65,264 in TDA funds for a total of \$172,358 (more detail is reflected in Attachment B).

#### Marin Public Works Association (MPWA)

On October 19, 2017 TAM staff presented the list of applications received along with the staff recommendation to MPWA at its October meeting. MPWA comments were all in support of the funding recommendation shown as attachment B.

TAM Programming & Projects Executive Committee

On October 9, TAM staff presented the list of projects and funding recommendations (reflected in Attachment B) to the Programming & Projects Executive Committee. The Committee unanimously approved staff's recommendation.

**FISCAL CONSIDERATION**

The projects currently being recommended for TFCA and TDA funding in 2017 are shown on attachment B.

**NEXT STEPS**

Upon approval from the TAM Board, staff will submit a list of recommended projects to the Air District and MTC by early November.

Please note that TFCA guidelines require a recommended list of projects to be submitted to the Air District by November or a CMA would lose the opportunity to program its funds. TDA funds have no such requirements. TDA funds can be programmed any time or allowed to be aggregated with future TDA funds for a larger amount to be programmed later.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Project Descriptions  
Attachment B: Funding Recommendation

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Sponsor	Project	Description
San Rafael	Francisco Blvd West Multi-Use Path 2nd to Andersen	Gap-closure project to connect the San Rafael Transit Center with the existing Cal Park Hill Tunnel Pathway and nearby Larkspur Ferry Terminal. The projects would help link and improve the main north-south pathway corridor in the Marin. The MUP would create a safe accessible route for pedestrians and bicyclist to access transit centers, offices/commercial centers, and schools in the area. The MUP would be a Class 1 bike path and would have limited street crossings. The proposed path would be 10' wide with a 2' decomposed granite shoulder. The project has an estimated completion date of spring of 2019.
Larkspur	Magnolia Ave Bike Rte 15 & Pedestrian Improvements	10-foot wide ADA-compliant multi-use pathway along the south side of Magnolia Avenue from Doherty Drive to the Post Street/Shopping Center driveway, and provides safety improvements at the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Magnolia Avenue and Post Street. The pathway completes the last gap in Bicycle Route 15, a primary countywide north-south bicycle facility. The new pathway replaces the current non-ADA complaint facility; at Post Street the project installs rectangular rapid flashing beacons to increase driver awareness and safety of pedestrians crossing Magnolia Avenue. The shopping center driveway on Doherty Drive is reduced in width to improve pedestrian and bike crossing safety .
Mill Valley	Camino Alto Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements	Re-stripe Camino Alto to accommodate northbound bike lanes; Add southbound bike lanes between E. Blithedale and Sycamore Avenues; South of Sycamore, prohibit parking during weekends, allow the higher volume of bicyclists to use the shoulder. Rebuild an existing traffic signal, with new LED signal heads placed to improve cyclist and motor vehicle visibility, countdown pedestrian signals, audible push buttons, and accessible curb ramps and improved traffic signal phasing to improve traffic operations. Complete dig out repairs in bike lane/shoulder areas. Reconstruct 150 feet of median north of Sycamore to accommodate bike lanes.

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Funding Recommendation							
Sponsor	Project	Project Cost	Amount Requested	Comments	Recommended Funding		
					TFCA	TDA	Total
Corte Madera	Tamal Vista Boulevard Bike/Ped Improvements	\$1,627,000	\$366,000	Approved by TAM Board in July 2016	\$366,000		\$366,000
San Rafael	Francisco Blvd West Multi-Use Path 2nd to Andersen	\$3,700,000	\$344,716	Class 1 Facility, Gap Closure			\$0
Larkspur	Magnolia Ave Bike Rte 15 & Pedestrian Improvements	\$300,000	\$237,622	The project enhances safety for students travelling to both Redwood High School and Tamiscal High School		\$172,358	\$172,358
Mill Valley	Camino Alto Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements	\$1,364,000	\$344,716	Re-striping of Camino Alto to accommodate northbound bike lanes; and provide an alternative for cyclists in addition to the MVSP MUP.	\$107,094	\$65,264	\$172,358
<b>Total New Funding Recommended</b>					\$107,094	\$237,622	\$344,716
<b>Total Programming of Available Funds</b>					<b>\$473,094</b>	<b>\$237,622</b>	<b>\$710,716</b>

Note: The \$237,622 in TDA funding was later revised from a previous estimate of \$239,978, sponsor requests were adjusted accordingly

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