



**DATE:** January 25, 2018

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

**FROM:** Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director  
David Chan, Programming Manager

**SUBJECT:** Senate Bill (SB) 1 Caltrans Planning Grant Applications (Action), Agenda Item No. 14

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend that TAM staff develop two applications as described below and submit them to the FY 18/19 Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant Program.

## **BACKGROUND**

Caltrans recently released the FY 18/19 Grant Application Guides and call-for-applications that include funds from Senate Bill (SB) 1. A total of \$40.8 million is available for transportation planning projects statewide. Applications are due February 23, 2018. Grant announcements are anticipated in May 2018. The earliest start date for awarded sponsors is July 2018.

The available transportation planning grant funds include:

- **Sustainable Communities Grants (\$29.5 million)** to encourage local and regional planning that furthers state goals, including, but not limited to, the goals and best practices cited in the Regional Transportation Plan Guidelines adopted by the California Transportation Commission. Maximum grant amount is \$1 million with 11.47% minimum local match requirement.
- **Strategic Partnerships Grants (\$4.3 million)** to identify and address statewide, interregional, or regional transportation deficiencies on the State highway system in partnership with Caltrans. New for FY 2018-19 is a transit component that will fund planning projects that address multimodal transportation deficiencies with a focus on transit. Maximum grant amount is \$500,000 with 20% minimum local match requirement.
- **Adaptation Planning Grants (\$7 million)** to support planning actions at local and regional levels that advance climate change efforts on the transportation system. Maximum grant amount is \$1 million with 11.47% minimum local match requirement.

Notices were circulated to the Marin Public Works Association and Marin Planning Managers requesting them to inform TAM if they decide to apply for a grant.

To date, San Anselmo is considering submitting an application for planning multi-modal improvements at the Hub, to supplement \$309,000 awarded by TAM from the OBAG 2 Call for Projects. Marin County is considering applying to study flooding issues at Manzanita. The TAM Board will be kept apprised of other possible applications that may be submitted.

## **APPLICATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION**

If approved by the TAM Board, staff will develop applications for submittal for the following projects:

- **State Route (SR) 37/Novato Creek Flood Mitigation** – Address ongoing flooding and sea level rise with improvements for the Highway 37 corridor in Marin County that affect the transportation facilities in the corridor and surrounding lands. The plan will incorporate both previous studies and ongoing flooding and sea level rise efforts in the Novato Creek watershed with targeted analysis and modeling of the Highway 37 transportation corridor to develop preferred, deliverable solutions. The cost of this study is approximately \$411,000. TAM previously received \$130,000 from Caltrans to start the initial phase of the study. Staff is proposing to apply for an Adaption Planning Grant for the remaining work not funded from the previous grant. Note this second application is being encouraged by Caltrans, when the first grant was insufficient to complete the envisioned scope of study.
- **US 101 Systems Plan and Bus on Shoulder Concept Plan** - In 2016 Caltrans staff met with TAM staff for a field visit of Highway 101, noting opportunities within the US 101 corridor to improve transit travel times with the potential concept of a bus on shoulder pilot. Since this visit, TAM has been coordinating with Caltrans about a systems approach for improvements to improve travel conditions for all users of the highway, including elements of ramp metering, bus on shoulder, park and ride improvements and operational enhancements. TAM proposes a grant application for the Strategic Partnerships Grant to assess the potential benefits of this approach, and the development of a concept plan for development of a bus on shoulder pilot program. TAM has reviewed this scope of work with staff from Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transit District, Marin Transit, California Highway Patrol and Caltrans.

## **FISCAL CONSIDERATION**

There are no current fiscal impacts with applying. However, if TAM is awarded a planning grant from Caltrans, funds from the planning grant and requisite local matching funds will be amended into the TAM Budget in the year(s) programmed by Caltrans.

## **NEXT STEP**

Develop applications and submit them to Caltrans by the deadline of February 23, 2018.