



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Planning and Building



Date: April 18, 2014
Board Meeting Date: May 6, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Jim Eggemeyer, Community Development Director

Subject: Submittal of a Caltrans Active Transportation Program grant application to design and permit the Parallel Trail in Montara and Moss Beach

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing:

- A) The submittal of a Caltrans Active Transportation Program grant application to plan, permit and design the Parallel Trail in Montara and Moss Beach;
- B) The County Manager, or his designee, to execute a funding agreement to encumber any funds awarded; and
- C) The committal of \$120,000 in a local cash match to complete the design and permitting of the Parallel Trail.

BACKGROUND:

The Parallel Trail is a conceptual pedestrian and bicycle commuter trail adjacent to Highway 1 throughout the Midcoast. Various segments of the trail will also be designed to serve as a Safe Route to School for students at El Granada Elementary School and Farallone View Elementary School. The concept of the trail was first introduced in the community-developed Highway 1 Safety and Mobility Improvement Study. The Parallel Trail is also prioritized in the San Mateo County Comprehensive Bike and Pedestrian Plan.

Once constructed, the trail will provide residents and visitors the opportunity to travel throughout the Midcoast without having to contribute to highway congestion. In Miramar, the trail will connect to Half Moon Bay's Naomi Patridge Trail to provide a safe alternative mode of regional pedestrian and bicycle mobility. The trail will allow children to safely walk and ride their bikes to and from El Granada Elementary School and Farallone View Elementary School. Pedestrians and bicyclists will be able to safely access businesses, residences and recreational destinations without traveling on the highway.

The County has received \$2 million in grant funding to implement various pedestrian and bicyclist safety and mobility projects throughout the Midcoast that were prioritized in the Highway 1 Safety and Mobility Improvement Study. In October 2012, the County received \$1.5 million to design and permit pedestrian crossings and raised medians along Highway 1. By implementing new forms of safe pedestrian crossings, the County will make walking and bicycling safer on the Coastside. In March 2014, the County received \$500,000 to conduct the planning, permitting and design of the Parallel Trail in Miramar and El Granada. By increasing pedestrian and bicycle mobility, we can reduce vehicle miles traveled and highway congestion.

DISCUSSION:

The County is applying for \$1,000,000 from Caltrans' Active Transportation Program to plan, permit and design the Parallel Trail through Montara and Moss Beach. In addition to serving as a commuter trail, the trail will be designed to serve as a Safe Route to School for students at Farallone View Elementary School. The trail will start at Main Street and 2nd Street in Montara and travel south to Carlos Street in Moss Beach. Additionally, as identified in the Farallone View Elementary School's Walk and Bike Audit, improvements to 5th Street—the main east-west route to and from Farallone View Elementary School — will be incorporated in the project design.

If funding is received, the County, Cabrillo Unified School District, Farallone View Elementary School, Friends of Farallone View PTO, Midcoast Community Council and local businesses, residents and stakeholders will work together to design the trail. We will work to ensure specific design features are emphasized to make the trail as safe as possible for all users, especially students.

The grant application has received support from the Midcoast Community Council, Cabrillo Unified School District, Committee for Green Foothills, Chamber of Commerce and countless parents and community leaders.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the grant is received, the County will provide a 12% local cash match of \$120,000.