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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Nevada County Transportation Commission

FROM: Mike Woodman, Transportation Planner

SUBJECT: Multi-Year Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program

DATE: May 2, 2017

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the Commission adopt Resolution 17-19 approving projects for Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2016/17 and FFY 2017/18 of the Multi-Year Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program.

**BACKGROUND:** The federal CMAQ funding program was created in 1991 for the purpose of funding transportation projects that will contribute to regions reaching attainment of the national ambient air quality standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter. Western Nevada County was designated non-attainment for the federal ozone standard in June 2004 and began receiving an annual formula apportionment of CMAQ funds, based on population and air quality severity. The Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) is responsible for managing the CMAQ program and utilizes a multi-year programming approach to deliver projects that assist in meeting the air quality standards.

On November 16, 2016, NCTC staff issued a call for CMAQ eligible projects for FFY 2016/17 and FFY 2017/18. The total amount of CMAQ funds available for the call for projects covering FFY 2016/17 (\$799,106) and FFY 2017/18 (\$834,579) is approximately \$1,633,685. NCTC staff has reviewed the project applications submitted and coordinated with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to develop the recommended program of projects for FFY 2016/17 and FFY 2017/18. NCTC staff and the TAC recommend approval of the following projects:

### Recommended CMAQ Projects FFY 2016/17:

- Wolf Creek Trail Project - Project Study Report/Preliminary Engineering, City of Grass Valley, \$226,000
- Boulder Street Sidewalk Project - Preliminary Engineering, City of Nevada City/Nevada County, \$107,066
- Searls Avenue Sidewalk Project - Preliminary Engineering, City of Nevada City, \$93,474
- Additional Funding, Nevada City Highway Sidewalk Extension - Construction, Nevada County, \$241,000
- Additional Funding, Adams Street Sidewalk Project - Construction, City of Nevada City, \$131,566

### Recommended CMAQ Projects FFY 2017/18:

- Condon Park Accessibility and Connectivity Project - Construction, City of Grass Valley, \$365,600
- Boulder Street Sidewalk Project - Construction, City of Nevada City, \$443,133

Additional background information regarding the recommended projects is provided below.

### New Project Overviews:

- Wolf Creek Trail Project Study Report: The overall purpose of the Wolf Creek Trail Project is to improve the mobility and safety of non-motorized users through the eventual construction of a new multi-use trail from the southwest border of the City of Grass Valley, connecting with the downtown area of Grass Valley and traversing to the eastern city limits, a total distance of 3.2 miles. The final Project Study Report will include illustrations, plans, alternatives analysis, phasing, design concepts and trail standards, estimates, right-of-way requirements, and preliminary environmental assessment.
- Boulder Street Sidewalk Project: The project consists of new sidewalks on Boulder Street and Red Dog Road with connections to adjacent sidewalks. No sidewalk presently exists for 90% of this area. The project will provide safe, convenient, pedestrian access between residential areas in both Nevada City and the county to downtown Nevada City.
- Searls Avenue Sidewalk Project: The project consists of a new sidewalk on Searls Avenue from Valley Street to near Sacramento Street, on Sacramento Street from Searls Avenue to the Highway 49 overpass, and on city property at 101 Clark Street and at Deer Creek. This project provides new opportunities for pedestrian access from residential areas to Forest Charter School and provides connections between the Seven Hills Business District and downtown Nevada City.
- Condon Park Accessibility and Connectivity Project: The purpose of this project is to improve the mobility, accessibility, and safety of non-motorized users through the construction of new pedestrian and bicycle paths through Condon Park and surrounding the nearby Minnie Park. The project will include the installation of an asphalt concrete pavement path beginning from the access road entrance to Condon Park on Scotia Pines Circle and connect to the existing roadway along the main park entrance on Minnie Street. The existing roadway and parking lot area will be retrofitted to include safer raised crosswalks, accessible walking aisles, improved signage, and other pedestrian safety enhancements. Several concrete walkways are proposed to connect from this area to existing sidewalk sections and to other park facilities, including the Love Building Community Center, playground, and picnic areas. Additionally, the project includes the installation of missing portions of concrete sidewalk surrounding Minnie Park on Butler Street and Minnie Street.

### Background Additional Funding Requests:

- Nevada City Highway Sidewalk Extension: The purpose of this project is to design and construct 2,600 feet of sidewalk and pedestrian path along Nevada City Highway starting at the existing sidewalk at Banner Lava Cap and Skewes Lane/Glenwood Road in western Nevada County. This project will provide the final section of sidewalk connecting the communities of Nevada City and the City of Grass Valley.

In April 2014 Nevada County Department of Public Works began preliminary engineering work to prepare the Nevada City Highway Sidewalk Extension project cost estimate. On April 6, 2017 bids were opened, with the low bid exceeding the engineers estimate by \$137,000. A bid summary comparing bid item unit costs identified a number of items that were higher than anticipated. This includes curb and gutter, concrete sidewalk, striping and marking, and drainage inlet structures.

Since more than half the project is located in Grass Valley's jurisdiction, Nevada County decided during the design process to use the city's standards in lieu of county standards. The use of Grass Valley standards resulted in some increases in quantities the county did not anticipate in the 2014 estimates. The costs to provide construction management and inspection were also higher than anticipated in the 2014 preliminary scoping effort. As a result the county is asking for an additional \$241,000 in CMAQ funding for the project. This should entirely cover the funding deficit and includes bid contingencies.

- Adams Street Sidewalk Project: This project consists of the construction of approximately 1,100 feet of sidewalk along Adams Street and Nile Street, starting at the end of the existing sidewalk at Long Street and continuing to the intersection with Nimrod Street. In addition, curb ramps will be added to the existing sidewalk on Adams Street to bring the corridor into compliance with current ADA requirements. The project will facilitate safe pedestrian movement between Pioneer Park and the downtown area of Nevada City.

The City of Nevada City completed the survey, environmental, and right-of-way phase of work in 2016. The Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) package were completed in first quarter of 2017. During final design a number of items were identified that resulted in an expanded scope and increased the overall cost for the project. These items are directly affected by the alignment and grade of the proposed new sidewalk along Adams Street and Nile Street. The additional items of work include tree removal, widening, retaining walls required along the north side of the street to accommodate the extra width needed for existing travel lanes, and the new curb and sidewalk. In order for the sidewalk to be installed along the south side of the street, it is also necessary to conform to driveways and private property improvements such as landscaping and fencing. The City of Nevada City expects to closely manage costs and control of work as we progress through the construction phase.

attachments