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APR 14 2021

City of South Gate

CITY COUNCIL

Item No. 9

CITY OF SOUTH GATE
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

11:15am

AGENDA BILL

For the Special Meeting of: April 20, 2021

Originating Department: Public Works

Department Director: _____

Arturo Cervantes
Arturo Cervantes

Interim City Manager: _____

Chris Jeffers
Chris Jeffers

SUBJECT: IMPERIAL HIGHWAY COMPLETE STREET STUDY (STUDY) IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE STUDY COMMITTEE AND THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PURPOSE: The Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG) is collaborating with several local agencies to prepare the Imperial Highway Complete Street Study (Study). This is a planning effort to increase active modes of transportation and reduce traffic congestion on Imperial Highway, across member jurisdictions. The Interim City Manager recently approved the Study Implementation Agreement administratively. It is recommended to fund South Gate's share of the Study and to appoint staff representatives to serve on the Study Technical Advisory Committee in order to participate.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: The City Council will consider:

- a. Appropriating \$4,042 from the unassigned Measure R balance to Account No. 224-780-31-6101 (Measure R Fund - Professional Services) to fund the Imperial Highway Complete Street Study (Study); and
- b. Appointing Arturo Cervantes, Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works, as the primary representative, and Kenneth Tang, Senior Civil Engineer, as the alternate representative to the Study Technical Advisory Committee.

PA/BJP

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no impact to the General Fund. The Implementation Agreement includes seven agencies which make-up approximately 14.6 linear miles of the corridor, of which just under one linear mile is in South Gate. The cost to prepare the study is \$219,600, of which \$160,000 will be funded by a grant and \$59,600 by contributions from the seven participating agencies. The City's share is \$4,042 and is based on the proportional share of the linear miles through the City. Staff is requesting an appropriation of \$4,042 of unassigned Measure R funds to fund the City's share.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL GOALS: The Imperial Highway Complete Street Study aligns with the City Council's goal for "Continuing Infrastructure Improvements."

ANALYSIS: Imperial Highway is a major east/west arterial corridor that spans from the City of Lynwood to the City of La Mirada. Imperial Highway transmits a significant amount of traffic, particularly in relieving heavy traffic volumes along the I-710, I-605, I-105 and I-5 freeways, as Imperial Highway crosses at varying points. Through the COG, cities along the Imperial Highway corridor have expressed interest in developing a "Complete Streets" plan. The COG has secured a \$160,000 grant to prepare a Complete Streets Study. It would develop a plan for a multimodal transportation system for the Imperial Highway corridor to enhance local and regional transportation mobility and sustainability. It would provide a plan for a pedestrian and bike friendly environment that operates effectively and efficiently for all modes of transportation. Safety, air quality and congestion

relief are amongst the benefits. Interested agencies may participate by approving an Implementation Agreement and appointing representatives to its respective committees.

The Implementation Agreement has been approved administratively by the Interim City Manager. It establishes two committees: the Imperial Highway Complete Street Study Committee (Committee) and the Imperial Highway Complete Street Study Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). These bodies will work in coordination to provide policy assistance, guidance and direction during the development of the Imperial Highway Complete Street Study. The Committee consists of elected officials of the legislative bodies of each agency. Participating agencies must appoint a representative and an alternate. The TAC consists of a staff representative of each agency, generally such representative being the Director of Public Works or City Engineer. TAC members do not receive compensation for participating. On April 13, 2021, the City Council appointed members to the Committee. The City Council may now appoint members to the TAC.

BACKGROUND: The COG's purpose includes transportation planning for the sub-region and advocating for funding for City and sub-regional projects – the Imperial Highway Complete Street Study advances that purpose. The Imperial Highway Complete Street Study is the fifth arterial corridor study being advanced under this program (the Artesia Boulevard Corridor Study, Lakewood/Rosemead Boulevard Study, Atlantic Boulevard/Avenue Corridor, and Florence Avenue Corridor having been previously approved by the COG and participating agencies).

Imperial Highway is a major east-west travel corridor through the Gateway Cities sub-region, connecting the cities of Lynwood, South Gate, Downey, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, and La Mirada, as well as the County of Los Angeles unincorporated. The goal of the COG is to begin coordinating the involved jurisdictions by developing the scope of the project recognizing the local condition and preferences that each agency has. At the completion of this process, the COG and participating agencies will have a “complete streets” plan that will allow them to better competitively compete for federal, state and regional funding opportunities. In particular, the plan will have an evaluation of the Corridor's existing and future conditions, a needs analysis and conceptual design of the Corridor.

It should be noted, street improvements on Imperial Highway are currently under construction. The proposed Imperial Highway Complete Street Study will plan for additional improvements that could be constructed at a future time, beyond those under construction. The study will evaluate the complete streets elements that are missing from the ongoing improvements, and prepare an upgraded complete street overlay including the wayfinding, aesthetics, water quality features, bus continuity evaluation and turnouts concepts. As such, staff is recommending participating in the study.

ATTACHMENT: None

GD:lc