



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO

FROM: Councilmember Jimenez

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: May 27, 2021

Approved

Date: May 27, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: **Monterey Road Transit Quick Build Projects**

Amount of City Funding Required: **\$200,000**

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable): #20

Proposal Description, including the reason for the need and anticipated outcomes (Please describe how the proposal will affect services for San José residents, community groups, businesses, etc.):

The Monterey Road corridor is one of VTA’s most productive transit corridors. The corridor is served by frequent network Routes 66 and 68. Beginning Fall 2021, the Rapid 568 will also serve the corridor, making Monterey Road the only corridor in the system to warrant three frequent network routes. To fully benefit from this high-quality service, we must explore opportunities to improve safe bike/ped access to bus stops and enhance transit facilities, including bus lanes on Monterey Road from Blossom Hill Road to Alma Street. The focus will be design and implementation of “quick-build” projects, with appropriate community input.

In 2019, the Mayor established the Monterey Corridor Working Group to revitalize this important resource for our city’s economic vitality. The purpose of the Working Group is to develop a common understanding of the issues and opportunities located in the Monterey Corridor relating to general planning, economic development, and transportation planning, and developing a scope of work that refines the focus on important improvements over the next two years, allowing stakeholders and the City to align with other efforts, such as the General Plan 4 year review, MTC’s Horizon and Planning Bay Area 2050, the Rail Corridor Plan for San José, and others.

The Working Group recommended improved VTA service levels and rebuilding Monterey Rd. as a Grand Boulevard and complete street. The City and VTA propose to work with the public to study short term, quick build transit improvements the corridor. This proposal would provide for the following high-level scope of work for this effort. Work would be carried out through consultant services with support from City staff. Work on the project would begin the second half of FY 21-22.

Task 1 Identify transit service needs, existing conditions, and project interactions

Bring together roadway existing conditions information and known transit services issues on the corridor from VTA's Fast Transit analysis. Using that information, identify where City street design and VTA operations changes can improve transit operations. Study the scheduling of other known projects and improvements along the corridor and how they would impact potential transit improvements.

Task 2 Community engagement and design

Bring initial conceptual designs - for both roadway street design and VTA operations changes - through community engagement to build consensus. Staff would work with council offices to generate this discussion and on setting up the meetings. Using a mix of consultants and city staff, roadway street designs would be produced for future implementation by the City, if funding were available. Any VTA operations changes would be implemented by VTA.

This work effort would be coordinated with the Monterey Road Safety Improvements (Metcalf Rd to Tilton Ave) BD request if both are approved. These two studies together can offer the Monterey Corridor a holistic approach to creating a multi-modal and safe corridor.

Consultant services for the study would cost \$312,000 and be funded by \$200,000 in City funding and \$112,000 in funding from the VTA. The \$112,000 is an estimate of anticipated matching funds from VTA. A funding agreement between VTA and the City would be needed. Existing City staff would manage the project. This project could also be funded by resources from the Construction Excise Tax Fund within the Traffic Capital Program; however, inclusion may require a rebalancing of the 2022-2026 Five-Year CIP.

Much gratitude and appreciation for DOT and VTA staff for collaborating to prepare this proposal.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve:

Other (Please specify program/project/fund):

\$200,000 from Construction Excise Tax Fund & \$112,000 from VTA matching funds

Department or Organization Contact

Please list the contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation:

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