



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Hans F. Larsen

SUBJECT: UNFUNDED TRANSPORTATION
INFRASTRUCTURE
IMPROVEMENT NEEDS

DATE: May 19, 2014

Approved

Date 5/20/14

BACKGROUND

During the Transportation and Aviation Services City Service Area (TAS CSA) Operating Budget Study Session on May 8, 2014, Councilmembers expressed interest in having an inventory and an “order of magnitude” cost estimate for the City’s unfunded transportation improvement needs, as a complement to the annual update of the City’s deferred infrastructure maintenance needs.

ANALYSIS

Staff does not currently have a comprehensive inventory and cost estimate for the City’s local transportation improvement needs. However, such inventory studies have been developed in the past. The current \$587 million transportation infrastructure maintenance backlog for the City includes items that could also be categorized as transportation improvements. These items may include \$14.4 million for median islands that are planned but not built, or built but not landscaped as originally designated. Additional items that may be considered include \$23 million for new curb ramps, \$21 million to plant trees missing from existing planting spots, or \$30 million to rehabilitate deficient or obsolete bridges.

Given the relatively recent adoption of the Envision San José 2040 General Plan, and the recent annexation of former County pockets, staff agrees with the merit of having a current local transportation improvement needs inventory and differentiating these improvements from the infrastructure backlog. These needs may include new or modified streets and related facilities, missing sidewalks, curb/gutters, trees, streetlights, storm facilities, and other related infrastructure in underdeveloped or undeveloped areas of the City, such as recently annexed County pockets, Alviso, and North San José. This is a significant work effort, but it can be incorporated into the Department of Transportation’s workplan for fiscal year 2014-2015. The Transportation Planning and Project Delivery Division would lead the Department’s effort in conducting this inventory, and existing staff will perform the work of identifying the inventory. Staff will strive to complete the needs inventory study so that information on scope and cost is available for the budget process in 2015-2016.

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COORDINATION

This MBA has been coordinated with the Department of Public Works, the City Attorney's Office and the City Manager's Budget Office.

/s/

HANS F. LARSEN

Director of Transportation

