



AGENDA ITEM NO.
c-11

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: June 7, 2016

Date: May 31, 2016

To: Board of Supervisors

From: *TM* Thomas K. Mattson, Public Works Director

Subject: Active Transportation Program Letters of Support

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors:
Authorizes the Chairman of the Board to sign letters of support for the McKinleyville Safe Routes to School, Hammond Trail Bridge Replacement, and Enhanced Samoa Trails Plan Active Transportation Program Grant applications.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: Bicycle & Trailways 1710715 and Roads-Engineering 1200321

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to the passage of Senate Bill 99 and Assembly Bill 101, the Active Transportation Program (ATP) was created and is being administered by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The ATP combines many federal and state funding streams previously used for bicycle, pedestrian, safety, and other related purposes into one funding stream with broad eligibilities. All ATP funds are distributed competitively with fifty percent (50%) of the funds channeled through a statewide competitive program, ten percent (10%) through small urban and rural regions with populations of 200,000 or less, and the final forty percent (40%) being distributed through metropolitan planning organizations in urban areas with populations greater than 200,000. The statutory goals of the ATP include:

- Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking,
- Increase safety and mobility for non-motorized users,

Prepared by Thomas K. Mattson

CAO Approval *Karen Clower*

REVIEW: Auditor *WBM* County Counsel _____ Human Resources _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor _____ Seconded by Supervisor _____
Ayes
Nays
Abstain
Absent

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. _____

Meeting of: _____

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: _____

By: _____

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

- Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals,
- Enhance public health,
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program, and
- Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users.

The Cycle 3 Statewide guidelines for the 2017 two-year program of projects covering state fiscal years 2019/20 and 2020/21 were adopted on March 17, 2016, by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

The current federal transportation bill, Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act replaced the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) with a set-aside of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funding for Transportation Alternatives (TA), resulting in a minor increase in funding compared to the previous federal transportation bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). On May 18, 2016, the CTC adopted the 2017 ATP Fund Estimate which reflects increased annual funding of \$3.1 million when compared to the previous cycle. The large Metropolitan Planning Organization funding increased by \$1,237,000, the Small Urban and Rural funding increased by \$303,000, and the Statewide funding increased by \$1,540,000 annually. Although the annual funding has increased, the overall funding this cycle is only for two (2) years as opposed to three (3) year programs in the previous ATP cycles.

2017 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM				
Annual Distribution (FY 2017-18 through FY 2020-21)				
By Funding Type and Category				
(\$ in thousands)				
Funding Type	Large UZA (Pop. > 200,000)	Small Urban & Rural (Pop. < 200,000)	Statewide (Any Area)	Total
STBG Set-Aside for TA ^[1]	\$26,796	\$6,569	\$33,365	\$66,730
Recreational Trails	0	0	1,900	1,900
Other Federal	9,100	875	9,975	19,950
State	13,221	4,829	16,150	34,200
Total ATP Funding	\$49,117	\$12,273	\$61,390	\$122,780

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is working on three applications for this year’s ATP call for projects.

The Hammond Trail Bridge Replacement Application is to replace the critical link in the Hammond Trail connecting non-motorized transportation between McKinleyville and Arcata over the Mad River. The bridge was built in 1941 as a railroad bridge and repurposed in the 1980’s to gain a second life serving bicyclists and pedestrians. The structure is quickly reaching the end of its useful life.

The McKinleyville Safe Routes to School application has been developed with input from the McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee (MMAC). The funding requested will be used to improve the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians access to local schools.

The Enhanced Samoa Trails Plan is a public-private partnership to leverage funding to develop recreational trails in the community of Samoa. Currently, the Samoa-Pacific Group has a proposed development that has a condition of approval to construct a basic trail system. The County application to the ATP includes enhancements to the basic trail required to create two and eight-tenths (2.8) miles of publically accessible

new recreational trails on the coast. After construction, the Humboldt Bay Harbor and Recreation District (HBHRD) will take over operations and maintenance of the trail system.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Costs for design and construction of the projects will be funded by the ATP grants received.

The requested action conforms to the Board of Supervisors' initiative of safeguarding the public trust by managing out resources to ensure sustainability of services.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee and Humboldt Bay Harbor and Recreation District.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Not support the applications

ATTACHMENTS: Letters of Support



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5TH STREET

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1153 PHONE (707) 476-2390 FAX (707) 445-7299

June 7, 2016

Division of Local Assistance, MS-1
Office of Active Transportation and Special Programs
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for the County of Humboldt's McKinleyville Avenue
Safe Routes to School Project

Dear Application Review Committee:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to extend support for the County of Humboldt's McKinleyville Avenue Safe Routes to School Project, supported by and involving the efforts of community partners and agencies such as the University of California at Berkeley's Safe Transportation Research Center, California Walks, Redwood Community Action Agency, Morris Elementary School, McKinleyville High School, McKinleyville Organizing Committee, and the McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee.

Safe Routes to School programs and activities help to recommend safe routes to schools, identify access and safety issues, and reduce traffic congestion near schools. McKinleyville residents and community organizations have been seeking improved safety for walking and biking in their community, particularly near schools. I am excited about the potential for safe, connected walking and biking networks to two schools in the disadvantaged community of McKinleyville. To inform this project, a pedestrian safety action planning workshop was held to incorporate community support and ideas with an immediate focus on strengthening the County's grant application for the Active Transportation Program. The workshop involved a walkability assessment and resulted in community driven recommendations to improve pedestrian safety for all ages in the area of Morris Elementary School and McKinleyville High School. Workshop participants developed eight recommendations for the grant application and overall pedestrian safety improvements in McKinleyville based on the 5E's of Safe Routes to School and the walkability assessment.

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors shares the goal of keeping children safe and healthy and encourages the use of active transportation when safe to do so. We are pleased to support this Safe Routes to School application and do not hesitate to contact Thomas K. Mattson, Director of Public Works at 707 445-7491 for additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Lovelace", written in a cursive style.

Mark Lovelace, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

ML:kh



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P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for the County of Humboldt's Hammond Trail McKinleyville-Arcata
Connectivity Project

Dear Application Review Committee:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to extend support for the County of Humboldt's Hammond Trail McKinleyville-Arcata Connectivity Project. The Hammond Bridge is an extremely critical link in our region's transportation system, serving as the only safe non-motorized transportation connection over the Mad River and between two large population centers, McKinleyville and Arcata.

The Hammond Trail is the most heavily used section of the California Coastal Trail in Humboldt County. This multipurpose trail is a successful rail-to-trail project, extending approximately 5.5 miles from the Clam Beach County Park to the Arcata Bottoms with state, regional and local significance. The Hammond Bridge over the Mad River is not only an important component of the Hammond Trail, it also provides a critical link between the communities of McKinleyville and Arcata. The bridge was built in 1941 as a railroad bridge and re-purposed in the 1980's to gain a second life serving bicyclists and pedestrians. Now quickly reaching the end of its useful life, it is critical that the bridge is replaced soon in order to maintain safe, continuous use of the Hammond Trail.

The Hammond Trail McKinleyville-Arcata Connectivity Project will ensure non-motorized commuters can continue to travel between McKinleyville and Arcata to access work, school, health care and other resources. It will safeguard the only non-motorized connection between the population centers of Arcata and McKinleyville separate from Highway 101 and on/ off-ramp traffic while providing a scenic view of the Mad River. Please do not hesitate to contact Thomas K. Mattson, Director of Public Works at 707 445-7491 for additional information.

Sincerely,

Mark Lovelace, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

ML:kh



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Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for the County of Humboldt's Samoa Enhanced Trails Project

Dear Application Review Committee:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to extend support for the County of Humboldt's Samoa Enhanced Trails Project. This project will add to currently planned development in the town of Samoa extending the trail system to include coastal access and access to the Pacific Union Elementary School.

Since the late 1800s the site has been the location for the "company town" of Samoa located on the northern peninsula of Humboldt Bay. The Town of Samoa has an approved Development Master Plan certified by the California Coastal Commission which includes 308 new residential units, a lodge/conference center/spa, a Historic/Cultural precinct, new tourist and resident-oriented retail, a business park, coastal dependent industrial uses, and parks and open space.

Humboldt County is applying for funding through the Active Transportation Program to develop a publically accessible trail system throughout the Samoa Peninsula outside of what is required in the Master Plan. These enhanced trails include coastal and school access. The proposed project will fund the development of 2.8 miles of new and improved non-motorized recreational trails along the coast. The project will service various pedestrian uses including walking, hiking, wheelchair use, running, bird watching, nature interpretation and backpacking.

The enhanced trail system is anticipated to attract a wide variety of users due to flat terrain, adjacent natural features, Samoa Peninsula location and close proximity to Humboldt Bay and the Pacific Ocean.

The Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District has agreed to accept the dedicated trail easements and will also oversee the Maintenance Benefit District which has been created to maintain the trails.

Humboldt County is world renowned for outdoor activities and this new coastal trail will be an important addition to the trail system. Please do not hesitate to contact Thomas K. Mattson, Director of Public Works at 707 445-7491 for additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Lovelace", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Lovelace, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

ML:kh