




September 5, 2019

To: Regional Planning and Highways Committee
From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 
Subject: Grant Award for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program

Overview

The California Office of Traffic Safety awarded the Orange County Transportation Authority \$100,000 in competitive Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Grant Program funding. The grant award will support implementation of bicycle and pedestrian education classes, which are intended to raise public awareness of safe pedestrian and bicycling practices.

Recommendation

Adopt Orange County Transportation Authority Resolution No. 2019-071 authorizing the Chief Executive Officer, or designee, to accept the State of California Office of Traffic Safety award, and to negotiate and execute grant-related agreements and documents with the California Office of Traffic Safety.

Background

The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) makes grants available to local and state public agencies for programs that help enforce traffic laws, educate the public about traffic safety, and provide varied and effective means of reducing fatalities, injuries, and economic losses stemming from collisions. Best practice strategies are developed to reduce the number of persons affected in crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists. These strategies typically include classroom education, bicycle rodeos, community events, presentations, and workshops.

Previously, OTS awarded the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) \$150,000 for two years of Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program funding to lead bicycle and pedestrian safety education classes, distribute safety materials, and conduct community traffic skills classes. The 2017-18 grant funded bicycle skills classes open to the public, and a train-the-trainer course to develop local instructors for future classes. The grant also funded distribution of safety

devices, helmets and bicycle lights. The current 2018-19 OTS grant is being utilized to perform the same activities.

In October 2018, OTS released a statewide competitive call for projects for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program. In response to this opportunity, OCTA submitted one proposal requesting \$100,000 for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Grant Program Project (Project).

Discussion

On June 14, 2019, OTS awarded OCTA \$100,000 for the Project. With the current award, OCTA will develop and implement bicycle and pedestrian safety education classes to raise public awareness of safe bicycling and pedestrian practices. The OTS grant award will fully fund the Project and does not require a local match contribution or cost-sharing arrangement. The Project is required to be complete by October 2020.

OCTA Board of Directors Resolution No. 2019-071 is presented for consideration (Attachment A). The resolution is required by the grant program, authorizes OCTA to accept the grant, and commits OCTA to completing the scope of work that was provided to OTS. OCTA has similar authorizing resolutions on file with OTS and other grant agencies, including the Federal Transit Administration, State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, and California Department of Transportation.

Summary

OTS awarded OCTA \$100,000 to develop and implement bicycle and pedestrian safety education classes to raise public awareness of safe bicycling and pedestrian practices, and reduce injuries involving bicyclists and pedestrians. An authorizing resolution to accept the grant award and enter into grant-related agreements with the OTS is presented for adoption as required by the grant program. The 2019-20 award will fund bicycle skills classes, a train-the-trainer course, and distribute reflective keychains, helmets, and bicycle lights, similar to efforts in 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Attachment


- A. Resolution No. 2019-071 of the Orange County Transportation Authority, 2019 California Office of Traffic Safety Grant Program Authorization

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