



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** John Ristow  
Jim Shannon

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** August 15, 2023

Approved

Date

8/16/23

**SUBJECT: STRENGTHENING MOBILITY AND REVOLUTIONIZING  
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM GRANT ACCEPTANCE**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the following actions to accept and receive Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation grant funding from the United States Department of Transportation for the City of San José's Curb Digitization and Management Pilot Project:

- (a) Adopt a "Resolution of Local Support" that indicates the City will:
  - (1) Follow all grant program requirements and delivery timelines; and
  - (2) Authorizes the City Manager or designee to negotiate and execute grant agreements and all documents necessary to effectuate the grant with the United States Department of Transportation in an amount not to exceed \$1,999,412 for the Curb Digitization and Management Pilot Project.
  
- (b) Adopt the following 2023-2024 Funding Source Resolution and Appropriation Ordinance amendments in the General Purpose Parking Capital Fund:
  - (1) Establish an estimate for Revenue from Federal Government in the amount of \$1,142,602; and
  - (2) Establish the Curb Digitization and Management appropriation to the Department of Transportation in the amount of \$1,142,602.

## **SUMMARY AND OUTCOME**

In March 2023, United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) recommended the City of San José (City) be awarded \$1,999,412 in Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant funding for the Curb Digitization and Management Pilot Project. USDOT requires entering into a grant agreement as part of the grant acceptance process. Adopting the above resolution will authorize the City Manager to execute the grant. This grant funding will help address key City goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing transportation safety and equity.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City has ambitious transportation and climate goals and has pledged to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030 with at least half of trips made by transit, biking, or on foot by 2040. San José's Downtown Transportation Plan, adopted in November 2022, identified curb management and demand-based parking pricing as strategies needed to reach these climate and other Downtown goals.

The City's Department of Transportation (DOT) actively pursues grant funds for projects that support the City and departmental goals. In November 2022, DOT submitted the Curb Digitization and Management Pilot Project for consideration under the SMART grant. USDOT recommended the award of \$1,999,412 in grant funding to implement the Curb Digitization and Management Pilot Project. The City will provide \$707,127 of in-kind work comprised of staff time for a full project cost of \$2,706,539.

As a condition of the grant award, USDOT requires the City to enter into a grant agreement with them by September 15, 2023, which serves as the project start date. Reimbursable work must be completed by March 15, 2025 (within 18 months of the start date).

## **ANALYSIS**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also referred to as the "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law" established the SMART discretionary grant program with \$100 million appropriated annually for fiscal years (FY) 2022-2026. The SMART program was established to provide grants to eligible public sector agencies to conduct demonstration projects focused on advanced smart community technologies and systems in order to improve transportation efficiency and safety.

### **Curb Digitization and Management Pilot Project**

The proposed project will use technology to develop a strategic and equitable approach to managing Downtown's limited curb spaces in order to meet the competing and growing demands for various curb uses. The project will create an inventory database of existing curb restrictions and uses. This database will help the City pilot and prototype approaches to reallocate curb spaces, monitor curb uses, and share real-time information about how the curbs are used for the general public.

The project will collect information on the quantity and use of curb space in Downtown. This will be done using professional services and a software platform. To get an accurate inventory of the curb, the project will use Curb Data Specification. This is a common curb data standard developed by a group of city transportation experts called the Open Mobility Foundation. This detailed inventory information will allow the City to publish and share curb locations and regulations online.

The project will then use sensor technology to collect data on how curb space is being used and develop a digital platform to visualize historical use and monitor use in real time. The City can change how the curb is used based on demand and highest community benefit. The platform will allow data sharing across City systems and be made accessible to the public. The real-time availability of the data will help bicyclists and drivers efficiently navigate the streets to find their destination. This, in turn, will reduce time spent idling or circling the block in search of a parking space.

Staff will engage the public through proactive community meetings and intercept surveys to provide project updates.

Table 1 Spending Plan by Fiscal Year

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>Total</b>
Staffing (grant funded)	\$ 331,412	\$ 0	\$ 331,412
Staffing (in-kind)	\$ 11,306	\$ 695,821	\$ 707,127
Equipment	\$ 500,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 725,000
Consultant	\$ 229,350	\$ 465,650	\$ 695,000
Other/Misc.	\$ 81,840	\$ 166,160	\$ 248,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,153,908</b>	<b>\$1,552,631</b>	<b>\$2,706,539</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,142,602</b>	<b>\$ 856,810</b>	<b>\$1,999,412</b>

***Climate Smart San José Analysis***

The recommendation in this memorandum aligns with one or more Climate Smart San José energy, water, or mobility goals by facilitating:

- Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Reduces Vehicle Miles Traveled

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

This memorandum is not expected to require additional follow-up. The project team plans to present key milestones of the pilot project to the Downtown Parking Board and other stakeholders of the Downtown community.

**COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS**

The full project cost of \$2,706,539 includes \$1,999,412 in grant funds covered by the SMART grant, as well as \$707,127 in-kind work for staff time related to the policy, budget, and technical management of the project. Funds will be expended according to the spending plan set forth in Table 1. This memorandum includes a recommendation to establish the Curb Digitalization and Management appropriation in the amount of \$1,142,602 in the General Purpose Parking Capital Fund. The in-kind staff work totaling \$11,306 for this fiscal year is included in the 2023-2024 Adopted Operating Budget (i.e., DOT’s Personal Services appropriations in the General Purpose Parking Operating Fund in the General Fund). The SMART grant award for \$1,999,412 is 100% reimbursable by USDOT.

Recognizing and appropriating the remaining \$856,810 of grant funding and \$695,821 for in-kind staff work will be included in the 2024-2025 budget development process. There are no ongoing operations or maintenance costs anticipated.

**BUDGET REFERENCE**

Fund #	Appn #	Appn Name	Current Total Appn	Rec. Budget Action	2023-2024 Proposed Operating Budget Page*	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No)
559	NEW	Revenue from Federal Government	N/A	\$1,142,602	N/A	N/A
559	NEW	Curb Digitization and Management	N/A	\$1,142,602	N/A	N/A
533	0511	DOT Personal Services	\$2,698,686	N/A	892	06/20/2023, 30933
001	0511	DOT Personal Services	\$24,095,207	N/A	751	06/20/2023, 30933

\*The 2023-2024 Adopted Operating and Capital Budgets were approved on June 13, 2023 and adopted on June 20, 2023 by the City Council.

**COORDINATION**

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement Department.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

August 15, 2023

**Subject: Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Program Grant Acceptance**

Page 5

**PUBLIC OUTREACH**

This memorandum will be posted on the City's website for the August 29, 2023 City Council meeting. During design, staff will coordinate a public outreach meeting to the affected neighborhoods and businesses.

**COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND INPUT**

No commission recommendation or input is associated with this action.

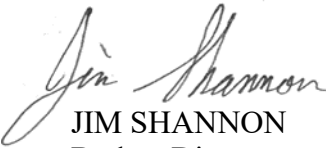
**CEQA**

Categorically Exempt, File No. ER23-009, CEQA Guideline Section 15301(c) Existing Facilities.

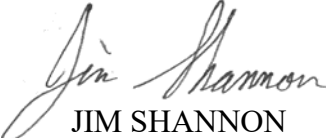
**PUBLIC SUBSIDY REPORTING**

This item does not include a public subsidy as defined in section 53083 or 53083.1 of the California Government Code or the City's Open Government Resolution.

/s/  
JOHN RISTOW  
Director of Transportation

  
JIM SHANNON  
Budget Director

I hereby certify that there will be available funding for appropriation in the General Purpose Parking Capital Fund in Fiscal Year 2023-2024 monies in excess of those heretofore appropriated therefrom, said excess being at least \$1,142,602.

  
JIM SHANNON  
Budget Director

For questions, please contact Devin Gianchandani, Transportation Grants Manager, at (408) 975-3254.