

COUNCIL AGENDA: 5/21/19

FILE: 19-349

ITEM: 2.18

# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** John Ristow  
Margaret McCahan

**SUBJECT:** KNIGHT FOUNDATION  
GRANT ACCEPTANCE ACTIONS

**DATE:** May 8, 2019

Approved D. D. S. L.

Date 5/9/19

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS:** 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager or designee to:

- (a) Accept grant funds from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation (Knight Foundation) in an amount not to exceed \$705,000 to implement San Jose's Radically Resident-Centered Automated Vehicle (AV) Community Engagement Project.
- (b) Negotiate and execute any documents necessary to accept the grant funds.
- (c) Adopt the following 2018-2019 Funding Source Resolution and Appropriation Ordinance amendments in the Construction Excise Tax Fund:
  - (1) Increase the estimate for Other Revenue by \$235,000; and
  - (2) Establish the AV Community Engagement Initiative appropriation to the Department of Transportation (DOT) in the amount of \$235,000.

## **OUTCOME**

Adoption of the resolution is required to authorize the City Manager to sign the Knight Foundation grant agreement. The grant will provide \$705,000 over a three-year period to the City to support community engagement regarding automated vehicles (AV). The program advances priority City mobility and environmental goals articulated in the City's Envision 2040 General Plan and Climate Smart San José.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 2018, the Knight Foundation created a five-year, \$5,250,000 initiative to "bring residents to the center" of AV pilot projects being conducted in cities across the nation. The Mayor's Office of Technology and Innovation submitted an application for the City to participate in that

initiative, which was accepted by the Knight Foundation. In addition to San Jose, programs were funded in four other cities: Detroit, Long Beach, Miami, and Pittsburgh.

This initiative is the largest of the Knight Foundation's efforts to develop "people-centered Smart Cities, which aims to harness the growth of digital technology to improve how communities respond, connect to and engage with residents." As a participant in this program, the City will meet regularly with leaders from the other four cities to share information and generate insights and lessons that will help those in the group, as well as other communities, determine how to effectively plan for the advent of automated vehicles.

## **ANALYSIS**

City staff actively pursue grant funds for projects that support the City's mobility and environmental goals articulated in the Envision 2040 General Plan and Climate Smart San José. Those goals include, among other things, reducing vehicle miles traveled, greenhouse gas emissions, and drive-alone trips by increasing those taken by walking, biking, public transit, carpooling, and other shared emerging mobility services, such as e-scooters and car-sharing and eventually automated shared services.

The Knight Foundation grant will support and enhance the City's AV work. Through its AV pilot program, the City is seeking to understand and influence the development, testing, and deployment of AVs to maximize the potential of this emerging technology to increase safety, mobility, sustainability, and the livability of our community. With the Knight Foundation grant, the City will partner with IDEO CoLab to conduct a "Radically Resident-Centered Community Engagement" process. The CoLab is a collaborative that uses design-thinking to develop innovative solutions to complex, systemic problems. The Knight Foundation is separately funding the CoLab's participation in this project. The City's grant will be used primarily to fund temporary staffing in the Department of Transportation to work with the CoLab to deliver the program.

The community engagement process, which would be repeated each year in different neighborhoods, includes three principal components: 1) A "hard problems" workshop attended by neighborhood, business and civic leaders that surfaces the key obstacles residents face around community engagement and transportation, particularly the use of automated vehicles and other emerging mobility services. 2) A six-week design "sprint" that will develop experiments or prototypes designed to share information and elicit input from a broader cross-section of the community. 3) A "visioning" workshop attended by residents that considers how AVs and emerging mobility services could improve mobility and transform our streets and neighborhoods. In year one, the process will focus on the San Carlos-Stevens Creek corridor, where the City's first AV research pilot is being deployed. In years two and three, the process would be repeated in areas where future AV research pilots are conducted.

At the completion of the program, the CoLab will produce a “playbook” describing how this process could be replicated in other communities to engage residents in a conversation about an autonomous future. Staff will also summarize lessons learned from the program, including the value of using design-thinking to improve a City process; insights on how to improve the City’s community engagement strategies; and residents’ views on how and where automated vehicles and other emerging mobility services might be useful and how our streets and public spaces could be redesigned to improve mobility for all.

### **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

DOT staff will report to the Council Transportation & Environment Committee and the Smart Cities and Service Improvements Committee on lessons learned from this project.

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

This memorandum will be posted on the City’s website for the May 21, 2019 City Council Agenda.

### **COORDINATION**

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

### **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

This item does not have input from any board or commission.

### **FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT**

This project aligns with the Transportation and Aviation Services CSA outcomes to provide viable transportation choices that promote a strong economy and to provide a transportation system that enhances community livability.

### **COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS**

The Knight Foundation grant does not require a local match. Acceptance of grant funds would provide the City with \$705,000 over a three-year period to implement the community engagement program, which consists of consultant/contract services and temporary staffing.

The grant funds will be provided in three installments with \$235,000 received after the grant agreement has been signed and \$235,000 received after each of two progress reports due in January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021 have been accepted. The first installment is recommended for recognition as part of this memorandum. The second installment will be included in the 2019-2020 Rebudget/Clean-up Manager's Budget Addendum scheduled for release later in this month. The final installment will be included in the 2020-2021 Proposed Capital Budget and 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Program.

### **BUDGET REFERENCE**


The table below identifies the fund and budget actions recommended as part of this memorandum.

Fund #	Appn #	Appn. Name	Current Total Appn	Budget Action	2018-2019 Adopted Capital Budget Page	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
465	NEW	AV Community Engagement Initiative	N/A	\$235,000	N/A	N/A
465	R130	Other Revenue	\$192,700	\$235,000	N/A	02/12/2019, 78982

### **CEQA**

Not a Project, File No. PP17-003, Agreements/Contracts (New or Amended) resulting in no physical changes to the environment.

/s/  
JOHN RISTOW  
Director of Transportation

  
MARGARET MCCAHAHAN  
Budget Director

I hereby certify that there will be available for appropriation in the Construction Excise Tax Fund in 2018-2019, monies in excess of those heretofore appropriated therefrom, said excess being at least \$235,000.

  
MARGARET MCCAHAHAN  
Budget Director