



**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Agenda Item # 2**

**AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY**

**Meeting Date:** June 25, 2019

**Subject:** Community Development Block Grant FY 2019/20 Capital Improvement Program Funding

**Prepared by:** Dave Brees, Special Projects Manager

**Reviewed by:** Aida Fairman, Interim Public Works Director

**Approved by:** Chris Jordan, City Manager

**Attachment(s):**

1. Proposed El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project description

**Initiated by:**

City Council

**Previous Council Consideration:**

May 22, 2018

**Fiscal Impact:**

The FY 2019/20 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Capital Improvement Program (CIP) contract will allow the City to proceed with the construction portion of the proposed El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project utilizing up to \$325,000 CDBG CIP funds and additional City CIP funds.

The current Engineer's Estimate for the project is \$662,940 for both design and construction of the improvements. Council has approved \$191,000 for the project. The addition of the proposed CDBG CIP funds will increase the project budget up to \$516,000. Staff will return to Council for approval of the additional funds required when actual construction costs are determined and the construction contract is awarded.

**Environmental Review:**

Categorically Exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 (c) Improvement of Existing Facilities.

**Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:**

- Does Council desire to utilize the opportunity for use of up to \$325,000 of CDBG CIP funds on the proposed El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project?

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**Reviewed By:**

City Manager

CJ

City Attorney

CD

Finance Director

SE

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**Summary:**

- Utilizes up to \$325,000 of CDBG CIP funds on the proposed El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project
- Allows for Council to consider use of up to \$325,000 CIP funds for other identified City CIP Projects

**Staff Recommendation:**

1. Authorize the City Manager to execute the FY 2019/20 Community Block Grant Contract; and
2. Appropriate up to \$325,000 of eligible Community Block Grant funds to the El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project



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### **Purpose**

To complete the El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project utilizing an external funding source to address pedestrian safety and access barrier removal.

### **Background**

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through the County of Santa Clara, to small cities within the County. The program funds capital projects that benefit low and very-low income households or otherwise disadvantaged persons. Applicable capital projects include new low-income housing construction or rehabilitation and access improvements that remove existing barriers for the disabled.

The City of Los Altos has traditionally used CDBG funds to assist those considered a “Presumed Benefit”; a category of people who are presumed to be low-income, such as seniors, severely disabled adults, victims of domestic abuse, etc. by installing curb cuts, widening sidewalks, etc., which will remove a barrier impeding disabled access. On June 27, 2017, Council approved a Joint Powers Agreement with the County of Santa Clara that allows the City to continue receiving allocations from the CDBG program through September 2020.

Recently completed Capital Improvement Program projects funded by CDBG CIP grant funds include the sidewalk improvement projects on Portola Avenue, San Antonio Road, Fremont Avenue, Downtown Parking Plaza Driveway Approaches, and the University Avenue Crosswalk Improvement Project.

### **Discussion/Analysis**

CDBG CIP project recommendations are typically presented to Council in spring in anticipation of a July 1 contract start date with Santa Clara County (County). Previous annual allocations have ranged from \$60,000 to \$170,050. In early May 2019 County staff notified the City of its approval of up to \$325,000 of available CDBG CIP funding for the proposed El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project. The actual contract amount is contingent on the final Federal CDBG allotment awarded to the County.

The proposed FY 2019/20 CDBG CIP project will make improvements to the sidewalk and pathway along El Monte Road between Edith and Almond Avenues. The improvements include replacement or installation of curb ramps, crosswalks, and removal of access barriers. The improvements will enhance pedestrian safety and overall pedestrian access by improving usability, visibility and connectivity.



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## Options

- 1) Authorize the City Manager to execute the FY 2019/20 Community Block Grant Capital Improvement Program Contract; and appropriate up to \$325,000 of eligible Community Block Grant funds to the El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project; and approve and authorize the proposed Intersection Pedestrian Improvement project and authorized the City Manager to execute the Community Development Block Grant contract should contingency funding become available

**Advantages:** Allows for the completion of the El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project utilizing an external funding source and free up City CIP funds for use on other projects

**Disadvantages:** None

- 2) Not to utilize an external funding source for the completion of the El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project and complete the project with City CIP funds

**Advantages:** Allows for the completion of the El Monte Avenue Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Avenue to Almond Avenue TS-01038 project

**Disadvantages:** Eliminates up to \$325,000 of City CIP funds for use on other identified projects

## Recommendation

The staff recommends Option 1.



## El Monte Ave Sidewalk Gap Closure – Edith Ave To Almond Ave



This project includes new intersection bulb-out with ADA ramp improvements at Almond & El Monte Avenue, new crosswalk with pedestrian activated rectangular rapid flashing beacon system and walkway gap closure on El Monte Avenue between Edith and Almond Avenue.

### Transportation -- Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety

**TS-01038**

Priority: Health & Safety

Project Lead: K. Small

Initial Funding Year: 2016/17	Planned Start Date: October 2016	Target Completion Date: September 2018
Project Status: In Design	Expended as of March 31, 2017: --	Operating Budget Impact: --

Prior 2017/18 2018/19 2019/20 2020/21 2021/22  
Appropriations Budget Planned Planned Planned Planned Total

#### Project

#### Estimates

El Monte Avenue Pedestrian Improvements	191,000	--	--	--	--	--	191,000
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#### Funding

#### Sources

CIP	191,000	--	--	--	--	--	191,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>191,000</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>191,000</b>