



City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

January 15, 2013
New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-002 APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM UNDER SECTION 164.56 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT: AVALON BOULEVARD / I-405 INTERCHANGE LANDSCAPING

Submitted by Farrokh Abolfathi
Acting Director of Public Works

Approved by David C. Biggs
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

The California Natural Resources Agency and The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) have announced the joint release of the Guidelines and Application for Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) for the 2012/13 grant cycle. The Engineering Services Division evaluated landscaping projects within the City that met the guidelines set forth within the EEMP program and selected the Avalon Boulevard / I-405 Interchange Landscaping project (Exhibit No. 1). Resolution No. 13-002 allows the City to file an application for the EEMP for grant assistance (Exhibit No. 2).

II. RECOMMENDATION

WAIVE further reading and ADOPT Resolution No. 13-002, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM UNDER SECTION 164.56 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT: AVALON BOULEVARD / I-405 INTERCHANGE LANDSCAPING."

III. ALTERNATIVES

1. DO NOT INTRODUCE Resolution No. 13-002.
2. TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

The California Legislature allocated \$10,000,000.00 annually to the EEMP fund. Local, state, and federal agencies and nonprofit entities may apply for and may receive grants to undertake environmental enhancement and mitigation projects that are directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of modifying existing transportation facilities or for the design,

construction, or expansion of new transportation facilities. Projects eligible for funding include, but are not limited to the following:

- i. Highway landscaping and urban forestry projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide.
- ii. Acquisition or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within the right-of-way acquired for proposed transportation improvements.
- iii. Roadside recreational opportunities; including roadside rests, trails, trailheads, and parks.
- iv. Projects to mitigate the impact of proposed transportation facilities or to enhance the environment, where the ability to effectuate the mitigation or enhancement measures is beyond the scope of the lead agency responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement.

The EEMP encourages projects that produce multiple benefits which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; reduce risks associated with climate change impacts; and demonstrate collaboration with local, state and community entities. The Engineering Services Division reviewed possible landscaping projects within the City that were directly or indirectly impacted by a road/transportation project. The Avalon Boulevard / I-405 Interchange project was selected because it was a recent transportation project where improvements/realignments of existing ramps were made in three of the intersection quadrants, and a new southbound on-ramp was built. The application seeks funding to landscape the area within the Caltrans and City of Carson right-of-way, in the immediate vicinity of the I-405 Interchange at Avalon Boulevard.

One requirement set forth by Caltrans requires that the City maintain the landscaped area for the first three years. After this three year period, it is expected that Caltrans will assume the responsibility of operation and maintenance. The Engineering Services Division will work cooperatively with The Boulevards at South Bay owners to reach an agreement whereby they will be responsible for the maintenance and operation of the area but an agreement has yet to be reached. If a maintenance agreement is not reached, the City will add this area to the existing landscaped median maintenance contract.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

The cost to maintain the landscaped area in the immediate vicinity of the I-405 Interchange at Avalon Boulevard is unknown at this time.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. Location Map. (pg. 4)
2. Resolution No. 13-002. (pgs. 5-6)

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Prepared by: Reata Kulcsar, Senior Engineering Technician

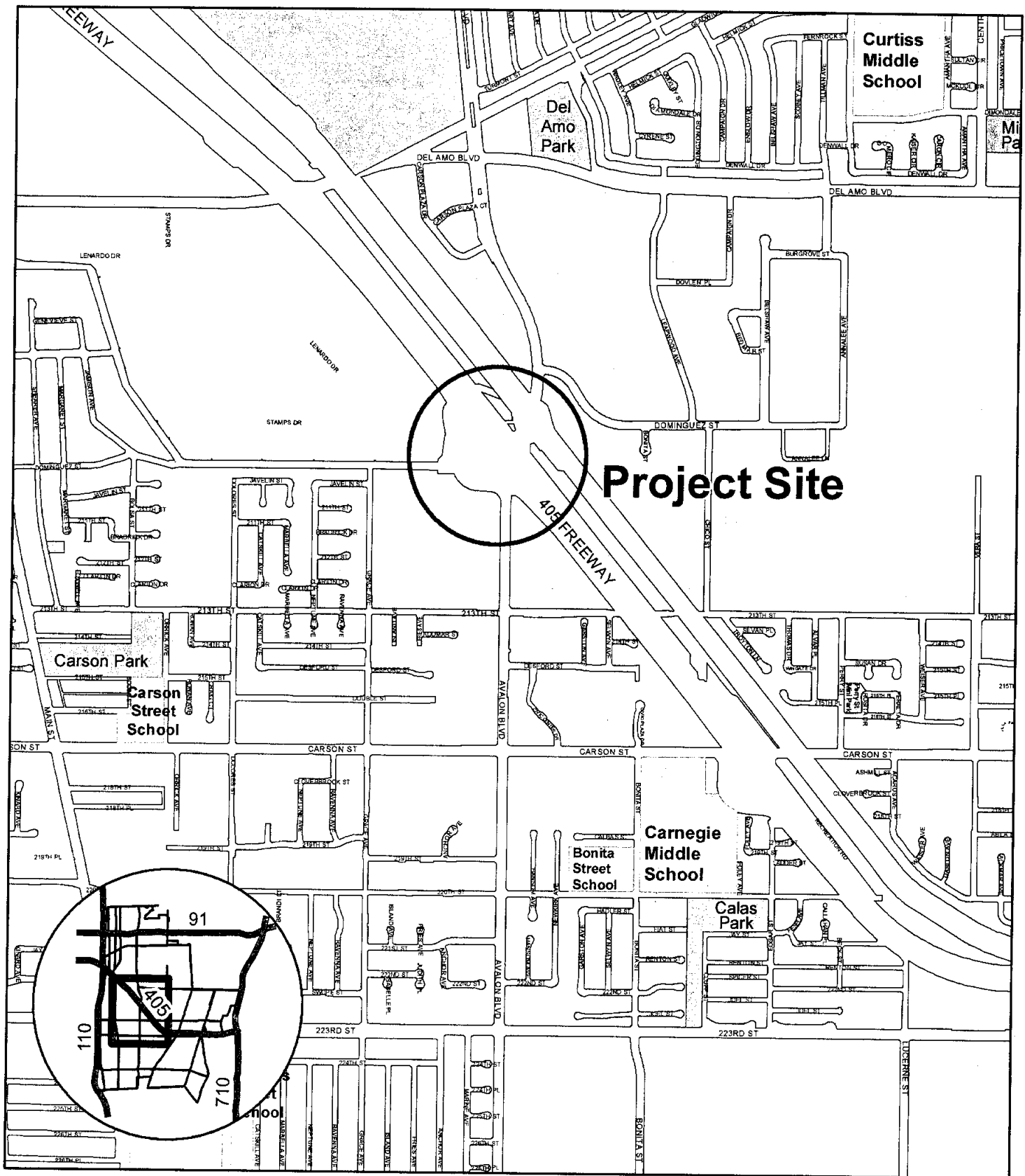
TO: Rev 09-04-2012

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

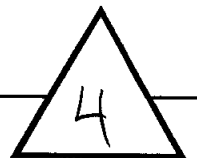
Action taken by City Council

Date _____ Action _____



Location Map
Avalon Boulevard / I-405 Interchange Landscaping Project

EXHIBIT NO. 1



RESOLUTION NO. 13-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM UNDER SECTION 164.56 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT: AVALON BOULEVARD / I-405 INTERCHANGE LANDSCAPING

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of California has enacted AB 471 (Chapter 106 of the Statutes of 1989), which is intended to provide \$10 million annually for a period of ten years for grant funds to local, state, and federal agencies and nonprofit entities for projects to enhance and mitigate the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Resources Agency has established the procedures and criteria for reviewing grant proposals and is required to submit to the California Transportation Commission a list of recommended projects from which the grant recipients will be selected; and

WHEREAS, said procedures and criteria established by the Natural Resources Agency require a resolution certifying the approval of application by the applicant's governing body before submission of said application to the state; and

WHEREAS, the application contains assurances that the applicant must comply with; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the environmental enhancement and mitigation project;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it determined by the City Council of the City of Carson, California, that the City Council:

Section 1. Approves the filing of an application for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program for grant assistance.

Section 2. Certifies that said applicant will make adequate provisions for operation and maintenance of the project.

Section 3. Appoints Farrokh Abolfathi as agent of the City of Carson to conduct all negotiations; execute and submit all documents; including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests; which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

[MORE]

EXHIBIT NO. 02



PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, ____.

Mayor Jim Dear

ATTEST:

City Clerk Donesia L. Gause, CMC

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

