

TO: JAMES L. APP, CITY MANAGER
FROM: JOHN R. McCARTHY, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
SUBJECT: SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT (SLOCOG) FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
DATE: AUGUST 17, 1999

Needs: For the City Council to direct staff on project applications for upcoming Federal and State Grants available through SLOCOG.

- Facts:**
1. The City has received notification of funding opportunities through SLOCOG. Most of the current available funding is for alternative transportation or enhancement type projects such as: pedestrian improvements, landscaping, trail access, bicycle projects and other enhancement related projects.
 2. A local match of 12 to 20% is required. SLOCOG staff requests that project proposals be limited to \$250,000.
 3. Grants available are as follows:
 - Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and State Highway Account (SHA)
\$300,000 available County-wide
Projects must have county-wide benefit in order to qualify.
 - State Transit Assistance (STA)
\$36,000 available County-wide. This grant is available primarily for Transit operations.
 - Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA)
\$837,000 available County-wide
This grant may be used for:
 1. provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles
 2. provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists
 3. acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites
 - Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EE&M)
\$10 million available state-wide.
Categories of projects eligible for this grant are:
 1. highway landscape and urban forestry
 2. resource lands
 3. roadside recreation (i.e. rest stops)
 4. Since funds are limited and criteria must be met for each type of grant, it appears that three (3) projects could qualify for funding.
 5. Applications to be submitted to SLOCOG by early October 1999.

**Analysis
and**

Conclusion: Attached are candidate projects that the City Council may wish to consider for application to SLOCOG. Once a project is recommended by City Council, staff will meet with SLOCOG representatives to determine the best way to submit a project to look at funding eligibility. The process is not easy and various documents are required to be completed with each application. The council should consider directing staff efforts to those projects which have the best chance of success.

It is recommended that projects 6, 7, & 8 may have the best opportunity for funding and that they be submitted to SLOCOG.

Policy

Reference: None

Fiscal

Impact: None at this time.

Options: A. That the City Council consider the attached project list and direct staff to submit project Nos. 6, 7, & 8 to be submitted to SLOCOG for grants.

B. That the City Council amend, modify or reject the above option.

Attachments: (1)

1) Project List

DRAFT PROJECT LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION
FOR SLOCOG GRANT APPLICATION
AUGUST 1999

1. Project Study Report (PSR) to install a round-about at Dry Creek/Airport Road. Report to include preliminary design for a new Airport entry road, landscaping and a new median between the entry and the Youth Authority.

Approximate Cost -- \$100,000

- *Project No. 1 would not likely be able to compete as having a county-wide regional significance, nor does it meet other criteria under the TEA or EEM Grant.*

2. Acquire property behind Boatel and expand parking for the Transportation Center

Approximate Cost -- \$500,000

3. Funds to pay off City debt for Boatel property and construct parking and install street improvements.

Approximate Cost -- \$400,000

- *Project Nos. 2 & 3 could have a better chance to have regional county-wide significance. However, the costs for these projects exceed the available fund of \$300,000 RSTP/SHA Grants.*

4. Re-construct sidewalk and install landscaping along both sides of Pine Street from 6th Street to 10th Street. Also, include benches, decorative lighting, and decorative wall in front of Hayward Lumber.

Approximate Cost -- \$400,000

- *Project No. 4 has been submitted twice under the EEM grant and was turned down. EEM projects must compete state-wide. The likelihood of this project being funded is small.*

5. Construction of a pedestrian/bike path along the Salinas River from Niblick Road to Creston Road.

Approximate Cost -- \$600,000

- *In 1998, a study was completed which identified preliminary alignment for this pathway. The study was funded with a SLOCOG grant. The City has also received funding from SLOCOG to prepare the construction drawings. This fund is not available until FY 2002-2003. City Council could direct staff to submit an application for the construction of the pathway under the TEA Grant. However, the amount of available grant is only \$837,000 county-wide. Therefore, the chance of getting this project approved is small.*

6. Update the City's Master Plan of Bikeways

Approximate Cost -- \$50,000

- *Project No. 6 may have a good chance of being funded under the TEA grant. Further, the amount is small enough and SLOCOG staff could recommend approval.*

7. Add additional parking to the Transportation Center and at the same time improve drainage on Pine Street between 6th and 7th Streets adjacent to Robbins Field

Approximate Cost -- \$30,000

- *Project No. 7 has a good chance to be regionally significant and the amount is small enough for SLOCOG staff to recommend approval under the RSTP and SHA Grant.*

8. 4th Street underpass/101 Interchange preliminary concept design and re-configuration.

Approximate Cost -- \$100,000

- *Project No. 8 has been submitted for funding several times in the past. It could have a high rating for regional significance under the RSTP and SHA Grant.*