

Heber Public Utility District

MEETING DATE: May 15, 2014

FROM: Laura Fischer, General Manager

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution Number 2014-4 Supporting the Active Transportation Grant Application.

ISSUE:

Shall the Heber Public Utility Board of Directors adopt Resolution Number 2014.4 supporting the Active Transportation Grant application to make improvements to curb, gutter and sidewalk on State Highway 86?

GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution 2014-4 supporting the Active Transportation Grant application.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NONE.

DISCUSSION

HPUD received an e-mail from the Imperial County Transportation Commission staff requesting support for a grant application to the Active Transportation Grant in the amount of \$800,000. The purpose of the grant would be to fund much needed improvements on SR-86 in Heber. All of the improvements would be done in cooperation with Caltrans.

The proposed improvements would include 6 ADA curb cut ramps, 690ft of 6ft wide sidewalks with a 4ft wide barrier from the curb and sidewalk. The improvements would also include new concrete curb and gutter, concrete ditch to direct storm water drainage, and concrete bus pad. Should this application be granted it would result in sidewalks, curbs and gutters along the main streets of Heber.

Staff has gathered copies of the past HPUD Board meeting minutes and relevant Resolutions as well as copies of the petitions gather by HPUD and Mr. Gutierrez requesting these improvements.

CONCLUSION

The Heber Public Utility District has a great desire to improve the health and safety of the residents of the community and as this grant application will result in an \$800,000 investment in curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements, staff recommends adoption of Resolution 2014-4.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Fischer, General Manager

Attachments: Resolution 2014-4 and Letter of Support

May 15, 2014

Mark Baza
Executive Director
Imperial County Transportation Commission
1405 N. Imperial Ave., Suite 1
El Centro, CA 92243

Re: Heber Public Utility District Resolution 2014-4 in Support of the Grant Application to the Active Transportation Program.

Dear Mr. Baza:

I am writing to express Heber Public Utility District's support for the grant application submitted by the Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC) to the Active Transportation Program request in the amount of \$708,240. At the May 15, 2014 meeting, the Heber Public Utility District Board of Directors adopted Resolution 2014-4 in Support of the Active Transportation Program grant application. The Resolution is attached for your review and consideration.

The Heber Public Utility District (HPUD) represents is a growing community and is part of the unincorporated area of the County of Imperial that is located in Southwestern California along the U.S.-Mexico Border.

If granted the project will include an additional \$91,760 in local funds for a total project cost of \$800,000. The improvements are proposed on State Route 86 between Parkyns Road and Heber Street in Imperial County in the township of Heber. The improvements will include two upgraded bus stops with covered shelters, improved driveway access to seven parcels of property, 690 linear feet of new sidewalks, six ADA accessible curb ramps and three crosswalks. Drainage will also be improved with 630 linear feet of new concrete curb and gutter and 215 feet of concrete lined 'V' ditch to carry storm water run-off away from the roadway. The new bus pads will be constructed of concrete to prevent the asphalt from buckling and will provide a longer life span for the bus stop and State Route.

The Project will construct the necessary pedestrian and roadway infrastructure to serve the community of Heber. The improvements on SR-86 will enhance access to pedestrians and transit users. The project area is a highly utilized area of the community by all residents including students traveling to and from school.

The Project will improve circulation at this intersection for both pedestrians and vehicles by enabling safe and efficient crossings and pedestrian pathways. This outcome will also greatly improve access to transit services for the community. HPUD welcomes this effort from ICTC and Caltrans to improve the traffic safety in our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this application. Should you or your staff have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Laura Fischer, General Manager at (760) 482-2440.

Sincerely,

Margarita Lizarraga,
HPUD Board President

Attachments: HPUD Resolution Number 2014-4

RESOLUTION 2014-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT SUPPORTING IMPERIAL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION'S APPLICATION TO THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the residents of Heber have for many years desired a safe route for pedestrians to walk in and around their community; and

WHEREAS, the good citizens of Heber have circulated petitions collecting over Four-Hundred (400) signatures supporting the installation of stop signs at the intersection of Heber Avenue and Highway 86; and

WHEREAS, the petitions state "This petition is to improve pedestrian safety by installing a speed limit sign near the intersection of Heffernan Avenue and Highway 86, adding stop signs at the corner of Heber Avenue and Highway 86 so it will become a four way intersection, **and installing sidewalks on both the north and south side of Highway 86 from Dogwood Road to Pitzer Road**"; and

WHEREAS, the signatures collected on the "Pedestrian Safety Petition For Heber Road (Highway 86)" represents 7.6% of the TOTAL population of the community, and 15% of the TOTAL ADULT population of the community; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the population in Heber live at or below the State poverty level and depend on public transportation, walking or bicycling as their mode of transportation; and

WHEREAS, these good citizens must walk across this busy Highway 86 to get to a public bus stop or to travel between elementary schools as there are NO ADA curb returns at these intersections within one-half mile of the bus stops on Highway 86; and

WHEREAS, there are NO sidewalks on the north or south side of Highway 86 thus the good citizens of the community must walk on the Highway or in the mud and dirt to get to and from the bus stops and elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, the Heber Public Utility District has received complaints in prior years and has expressed the good citizens concerns to the County of Imperial, Cal Trans, and other elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Imperial County Transportation Commission has developed an application to the Active Transportation Grant Program requesting \$708,240 in funds to make these much desired improvements; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Heber Public Utility District as follows:

Heber Public Utility District hereby fully support and encourage the grant application submitted by the Imperial County Transportation Commission to the Active Transportation Program, and directs the General Manager to file this Resolution along with the attached letter of support with the following government officials and agencies:

Mr. Mark Baza, Executive Director
Imperial County Transportation Commission
1405 N. Imperial Avenue, Suite 1
El Centro, CA 92243

Mr. Jack Terrazas, County Supervisor
County of Imperial Board of Supervisors
940 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Senator Ben Hueso
State Capitol, Room 2054
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Member, V. Manuel Perez
P. O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0080

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of May 2014, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Margarita Lizarraga
President of the Board

ATTEST:

Rafaela Sanchez
Clerk of the Board of Directors