

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Date: November 7, 2001

Board Meeting Date: November 20, 2001

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Neil R. Cullen, Director of Public Works

Subject: Alameda de las Pulgas Mid-block Pedestrian Actuated Signal
(Project No. R7J01; F-36 [324B])

RECOMMENDATION

1. Determine if County Road Funds should be used to finance the construction of a mid-block pedestrian actuated signal on the Alameda de las Pulgas between Mills Avenue and Camino Al Lago near the Las Lomas School.
2. If your Board determines that County Road Funds should be used, adopt a resolution:
 - a) directing the Director of Public Works to use Road Funds appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2001/2002 Budget to finance the construction of the mid block signal system; and
 - b) adopting plans and specifications, determining prevailing wage scales, and calling for sealed proposals for the installation of said signal.

Staff Recommendation

Approve the use of Road Funds to construct a mid block signal and adopt a resolution adopting plans and specifications, determining prevailing wage scales, and calling for sealed proposals for the installation of said signal.

Previous Board Action

Authorized the Director of Public Works to design a pedestrian actuated signal near the Las Lomas School on the Alameda de las Pulgas and to apply to the State of California for a Safe Route to School grant to fund the mid-block signal.

Honorable Board of Supervisors

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Key Facts

1. The State has notified us that the signal project did not qualify for grant funding in this funding cycle.
2. There is no guarantee that the signal will be funded in subsequent years through the Safe Route to School Grant Program.
3. We believe that we should move forward with the project since it is part of a plan to improve the circulation and pedestrian safety that was developed with the cooperation of the School District, the Las Lomitas School staff, the Town of Atherton with input from the parents of children attending the school, and residents in the area.

Discussion

The mid block signal is an integral part of the overall plan to improve the circulation and pedestrian safety in the area in conjunction with other improvements made by the School and the Town of Atherton. The signal was proposed to:

- help reduce pedestrian/ vehicle conflicts that exist at the intersection of Camino Al Lago and the Alameda where children who live to the southwest of Camino Al Lago cross as they walk to and from school;
- provide a pedestrian crossing of the Alameda at all times and not just when the school crossing guard is on duty;
- avoid compromising traffic on the Alameda de las Pulgas by the installation of a traffic light at Camino Al Lago for the benefit of vehicles wanting to turn onto the Alameda; and
- avoid encouraging parents to drive their children to the School by providing additional improvements for their convenience.

The School District cooperated with us in developing the necessary information for the grant and we submitted the grant within the specified time frame. Unfortunately, the State determined not to fund this work this funding cycle. However, as stated under Key Facts above, we believe that we should move forward with the project since it is part of a plan to improve the circulation and pedestrian safety in the area.

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This project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to Section 6.4 Class 2C of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and a Notice of Exemption has been filed with the County Clerk Recorder as provided by County guidelines.


Fiscal Impact

The estimated construction cost for the installation of the pedestrian actuated signal is \$102,000, and we are recommending that the project be financed from the "all other roads" appropriation line item in the 2001-02 Road Fund Budget.

There is no impact to the General Fund.

A form of resolution has been approved by County Counsel.

We have sent a copy of this staff report to the Las Lomas School District, the School principal, the Town of Atherton and the parents and staff that have been involved in previous discussions. We have also sent copies of this report to the property owners near where the signal is proposed to be installed, and will report to you on any comments that we receive.


Neil R. Cullen
Director of Public Works

NRC:JAL:sdd

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File No.: F-36 (324B)

cc: Milt Mares, County Counsel

Resolution No. _____

Board of Supervisors, County of San Mateo, State of California

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Resolution Authorizing the Director of Public Works to Use Road Funds to Finance the Installation of a Mid-Block Signal and Adopting Plans and Specifications, Determining Prevailing Wage Scales and Calling for the Sealed Proposals for the Installation of a Mid-Block Signal on the Alameda de las Pulgas – West Menlo Park Area

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, Plans and Specifications have been prepared and approved by the Director of Public Works for the Alameda de las Pulgas Mid-Block Pedestrian Actuated Signal Project and said Plans and Specifications have been filed in the office of the Director of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, a schedule of prevailing wage scales for each craft or type of workman needed to execute this contract in the locality in which said work is to be performed has been established by the Department of Industrial Relations and has been referred to in said Specifications.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The Director of Public Works is authorized to finance said installation of the mid block signal system with Road Funds.

2. The Plans and Specifications dated November 16, 2001, for the aforementioned project, on file in the office of the Director of Public Works, to which reference is hereby made for further particulars, are hereby approved of and adopted as the Plan details and Specifications to be adhered to in letting and performing the work under a contract for said improvements.

3. The schedule of prevailing wages referred to in said Specifications has been determined to contain the general prevailing rates of wages in the locality in which said work is to be performed for each craft or type of workman needed to execute said contract.

4. The Department of Public Works is authorized and directed to issue a call for sealed proposals to be received by the County Manager/Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Hall of Justice and Records, 400 County Center (formerly 401 Marshall Street), Redwood City, California San Matco County, on or before **2:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 18, 2001**, in said office in the Hall of Justice and Records, Redwood City, California. Said bids will then be transmitted to the County Manager's Office and be publicly opened and declared.

5. The Department of Public Works is further directed to cause the Notice inviting sealed proposals to be published for **two (2)** times in the **Independent Newspaper Group**, a newspaper printed and published in this County, and to obtain an affidavit of said publication, a copy of which shall be placed on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

6. The Director of Public Works is authorized to extend the date and time of receipt of bids and the opening of bids up to sixty (60) calendar days beyond the original date and time established by this Board.

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