City of FRESNO

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO.	1 J
COUNCIL MEETING	12/09/08
APPROVED BY	
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR	
CITY MANAGER	

December 9, 2008

Presented to City Council
Date 12/9/08
Disposition

FROM: PATRICK N. WIEMILLER, Director
Public Works Department

BY: STEVEN C. SON, P.E., Capital Projects Manager
Public Works Department

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE STAFF TO REQUEST AN EXTENSION OF UNSPENT ENCUMBERED BUDGET FOR CLOVIS AVENUE FROM MCKINLEY TO KINGS CANYON AS WELL AS TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROJECT AT MARKS AVENUE AND WEBER AVENUE

KEY RESULT AREA

Financial Management

RECOMMENDATIONS

Authorize staff to request an extension of unspent encumbered budget for the Clovis Avenue from Kings Canyon to McKinley and also the Marks Avenue/Weber Avenue intersection traffic signal project and to authorize the Public Works Director, or designee to sign the request on behalf of the City Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Caltrans has notified the City of Fresno that the Clovis Avenue from Kings Canyon to McKinley and Marks Avenue/Weber Avenue traffic signal project has $121,364 and $171,883, respectively, in unexpended Federal Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds. These two projects have been delayed due to utility conflict preventing the City from completing the project by the May 1, 2009 deadline. To start the process of extending the encumbered budget, Caltrans requires concurrence by the City Council with the staff request. Therefore, staff recommends that the City request a Cooperative Work Agreement from Caltrans to extend the encumbered funds and allow all eligible project costs to be reimbursed.

KEY OBJECTIVE BALANCE

The extension of the encumbered funds balances the Key Objectives of Customer Satisfaction and Employee Satisfaction. Financial Management and Customer Satisfaction objectives are improved by extending these funds to allow proper time to construct the improvements. Employee Satisfaction is addressed by allowing the proper time to closeout the project properly.

BACKGROUND

On October 29, 2008, the State of California, Department of Transportation, Office of Local Assistance (Caltrans) notified the City of Fresno that several active City projects have funds that are due to lapse on June 30, 2008. Staff evaluated and determined that there are two projects that will not expend the lapsing funds by the deadline. Clovis Avenue Widening from Kings Canyon to McKinley has $121,364 in unexpended Federal Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds that the project needs to be closed out and needs to be billed no later then May 1, 2008. The City has been unable to close out this project because the City has been delayed by Fresno Irrigation District and Pacific Gas & Electric. Both utility companies have not been able to meet our construction schedule due to schedule conflict and prior commitment. As part of this project, we are to widen an existing bridge over an irrigation canal just south of McKinley. Fresno Irrigation District has been conveying water through the canal; we have been unable to obtain an encroachment permit until their delivery season ended. Also Pacific Gas & Electric has been unable to relocate some of their high voltage transmission lines because of prior commitment to Gallo Winery plant. Gallo Winery has been in their grape processing season. Until Gallo Winery is able to schedule a shut down of their plant, Pacific Gas & Electric is unwilling to relocate the power line.

Marks Avenue and Weber Avenue Traffic Signal project has $171,883 in unexpended Federal Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds and needs to be billed no later then May 1, 2008. The project has been delayed due to eminent domain processing, for the necessary right of way and utility companies have been unable to meet our construction schedule. At this time we have been assured the utility conflict will be resolved no later then April 2009. Given this schedule, staff will be advertising for bids on the Marks Avenue and Weber Avenue Traffic Signal project in December 2008 with an anticipated Council award of this project no later then March of 2009. Once the project has been awarded by Council, staff will bill Caltrans and have this project removed from the lapsing fund list.

FISCAL IMPACT

If the request is not approved, the City stands to have an estimated $293,247 in project budget lapse in June of 2009. If the resolution and future agreement are approved, all identified budgeted funds can be reimbursed.

PNW/EB/SCS/eam
Req Exten from Caltrans for Unspent Encumb Funds for Prj 12-9-08