



Meeting Date: 01 : 27 : 09

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Prepared By: Martin R. Erickson *MRE* Agenda Item No. 0-1

Reviewed By: City Manager *MMH* City Attorney *J* Finance *J* Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: January 15, 2009

TO: City Council

FROM: Martin R. Erickson  
Legislative Affairs Manager  
City Manager's Office

**SUBJECT: Support for City's Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 Federal Funding Requests**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That City Council:

1. Execute a letter of support for the following FY 2010 federal funding requests: Rice Avenue/Highway 101 Interchange, Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) Program, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Traffic Mitigation Program, Campus Park Master Plan, College Park Master Plan, Levee Project in the Santa Clara River Floodplain, Comprehensive Critical Assets Remote Surveillance Program, Colonia Branch Library Expansion, and Sports Park Development and Implementation.
2. Authorize the City Manager to prepare the requisite grant applications for these projects.

**DISCUSSION**

The City Council has requested federal funding for critical projects for the City of Oxnard for many years. With a new session of Congress underway, and significant uncertainty about the amount of funding that will be available in the next federal budget, legislators are asking that projects be ranked and submitted to Congress by February 5, 2009, earlier than usual. Additionally, there is strong expectation that the Obama administration will work with Congress to implement an aggressive federal "stimulus package", with significant focus on infrastructure projects.

In September, 2007 the City Council adopted a Legislative Program which allowed staff to more efficiently carry out City Council direction with respect to a variety of critical areas of concern to the City, including water resources, transportation needs, and preservation of local control. This request for federal funding supplements the intent of the Legislative Program, and positions the City well to respond to potential funding opportunities that may result from a federal "stimulus package". Although

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the City Manager's office serves as the focal point of these efforts, the funding requests represent broad input from all City departments, from public works to the library. This inclusive effort has paid off in the past with federal and state monies to a variety of critical projects.

While the City of Oxnard has maintained an aggressive and effective legislative program, with the downturn of the economy, staff is enhancing its grant seeking activities, particularly with respect to social programs which may be affected by pending state cutbacks. With the recent passage by Oxnard residents of Measure O, the half-cent general purpose sales tax, staff is also looking at potential grant opportunities that require a matching amount in order to effectively "leverage" future grant projects. In this way, future Measure O revenues could be enhanced by being used in conjunction with a match requiring grant.

In cooperation with the City's legislative advocate, staff recommends that the City submit applications for the following nine ongoing projects:

1. U.S. Highway 101/Rice Avenue/Santa Clara Avenue: This interchange is at the northern terminus of the Port Intermodal Corridor, and is the north-south arterial that crosses U.S. 101 – one of the major highways in Southern California. Last year, the City was awarded over \$30 million from State Proposition 1B Transit Corridor Funding. Because this project is "ready to go", it makes an ideal candidate for potential federal stimulus funding.
2. The Groundwater Recovery Enhancement And Treatment (GREAT) Program: The GREAT Program is a comprehensive water supply program that would bring about the following benefits to the nearly 200,000 residents of Oxnard: Improving water quality deliveries, reducing imported water requirements, guaranteeing sufficient supply to meet increasing needs, alleviating severely depressed groundwater levels, and development of recycled water.
3. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Traffic Mitigation Program: As a thriving and growing City, Oxnard needs innovative methods for managing and monitoring the increase in traffic flow that is being experienced countywide. The ITS responds to this by utilizing a system of closed circuit television cameras and computers to monitor critical intersections throughout the City. City staff will coordinate this activity from a Traffic Management Center (TMC) to improve traffic flow, as well as provide enhancements in travel time for emergency vehicles and public transit services. The initial phase of this program was recently approved by City Council.
4. Campus Park Master Plan: This project concerns the old Oxnard High School site. The proposed Campus Park site will provide a focal point for the community with a variety of needed recreational activities. Approximately 40 percent of the City's population is under 24 years of age.
5. College Park Master Plan Implementation: This has been an on-going application for funding to complete the various outstanding phases of the College Park development. Last year, the playground and basketball courts were completed, which have been highly utilized. When completed, the 75-acre College Park site will provide a recreational and economic asset that will

meet the community-wide demand for lighted soccer and softball/baseball fields, as well as partnership opportunities with the surrounding schools.

6. Levee Project in the Santa Clara River Floodplain: A recent flood study by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) has re-drawn the 100 year floodplain map of the Santa Clara River. FEMA's updated maps for Ventura County place certain residents from Oxnard, Fillmore, Santa Paula, and unincorporated areas of the County in the 100-year floodplain. The City and the County of Ventura Public Works Department and Watershed District staff have been actively engaged in discussions with FEMA staff regarding the proposed changes. In the event that the changes are implemented by the federal government, construction of levees may be necessary. Prudence dictates that the City take a pro-active stance in relation to this matter.
7. Police Department's Comprehensive Critical Assets Remote Surveillance Program: This project will significantly enhance the Oxnard Police Department's capability (through the Security Operations Center) to monitor critical areas throughout the City of Oxnard. In addition, businesses and schools with video surveillance systems already in place could enroll in remote surveillance programs to provide law enforcement personnel with instantaneous information from live video feeds.
8. Colonia Branch Library Remodel and Expansion: With a multitude of schools and new homes being built in the Colonia area of northeast Oxnard, the community has outgrown its existing one-room Colonia Branch Library. A larger improved facility would not only allow for an increase of books and media, but enable the library to conduct programs such as homework assistance for school children, access to computers for the general public, quiet study areas, and life-long learning opportunities.
9. Sports Park Development and Implementation: The City of Oxnard purchased a 21.43-acre parcel at the southeast corner of Oxnard Boulevard and Gonzales Road for the development of a Sports Park. Five lighted fields are proposed, including several fields for soccer, baseball, and softball. A shared use schedule would allow for a diverse array of recreational activities in a positive, well-lit area for youth and families.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There is no financial impact at this time as this item involves legislative policy for on-going operations. *The receipt of federal funds for these projects would benefit the City.*

Attachment #1 Letter in support City's FY 2010 Federal Funding Requests.



DR. THOMAS E. HOLDEN  
Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
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January 27, 2009

The Honorable Lois Capps, Congresswoman  
United States House of Representatives  
1118 Longworth  
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support of FY 2010 Funding Requests

Dear Congresswoman Capps:

On behalf of the residents of Oxnard, the Oxnard City Council thanks you for your past support of the City's federal program. The City Council encourages you to consider the City's FY 2010 funding requests and request that you encourage federal agencies to make the FY 2010 funds available through a competitive process. As you know, Oxnard's population of nearly 200,000 represents one-quarter of Ventura County's population, and these projects would provide significant benefits to the City's residents. The City's FY 2010 funding requests are listed below in priority order:

1. U.S. Highway 101/Rice Avenue/Santa Clara Avenue: This interchange is at the northern terminus of the Port Intermodal Corridor, and is the north-south arterial that crosses U.S. 101 – one of the major highways in Southern California. Last year, the City was awarded over \$30 million from State Proposition 1B Transit Corridor Funding. Because this project is "ready to go", it makes an ideal candidate for potential federal stimulus funding.
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The Honorable Lois Capps, Congresswoman  
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The City Council desires to continue working with you and your staff to ensure that the City of Oxnard's Federal Program continues to be successful. Thank you again, for your past assistance and support of Oxnard. Please do not hesitate to contact Martin R. Erickson, Legislative Affairs Manager at (805) 385-7870 should you have any additional questions about these projects.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Thomas E. Holden  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andres Herrera  
Mayor Pro Tem

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean Maulhardt  
Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Irene G. Pinkard  
Councilwoman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan MacDonald  
Councilman