



---

DATE: April 5, 2023

TO: Chair Kelly Bond and Members of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee

FROM: Bjorn Gripenburg, MCRP – Project Manager, Public Works and Utilities  
Ken Eichstaedt, P.E., T.E. – Senior Traffic Engineer, Public Works and Utilities

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Authorize the Chair to Provide a Letter of Support to City Council for Transportation Development Act, Article Three Funds for the Active Transportation Plan – Not a “Project” Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Section 15378

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee authorize the Chair to provide a letter of support to City Council for Transportation Development Act, Article Three Funds for the Active Transportation Plan.

### **BACKGROUND**

Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds are generated from a statewide quarter-cent sales tax. Article 3 of TDA, (TDA3), is a set-aside of approximately two percent of those funds for bicycle and pedestrian planning and projects. The funds, which are allocated by population, are managed locally by the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA), with a specific amount set aside for Petaluma, subject to formal approval by SCTA. There are no matching requirements with this funding source. Projects are required to meet Caltrans safety design criteria and California Environmental Quality Act requirements; be completed within three years; be maintained; be consistent with the adopted bicycle and pedestrian plan, and be authorized by City Council. Projects are to be recommended by the local bicycle and pedestrian committee.

The following project types are eligible for TDA3 funding:

1. Construction and/or engineering of a bicycle or pedestrian capital or quick build projects.
2. Maintenance of Class I shared-use paths and Class IV separated bikeways.
3. Bicycle and/or pedestrian safety education programs (no more than 5% of county total).
4. **Development of a comprehensive bicycle or pedestrian facilities plans** (allocations to a claimant for this purpose may not be made more than once every five years).
5. Restriping Class II bicycle lanes and buffered bicycle lanes.

The City of Petaluma has applied for and been granted these funds several times in recent years. The City used TDA3 funds most recently for maintenance and the construction of two sections of the Lynch Creek Trail.

## **DISCUSSION**

The City's current TDA3 fund balance is \$79,280. For this year's cycle, staff recommends applying for funds to support the ongoing update to the Active Transportation Plan, which was adopted in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget under the Active Transportation Plan and Wayfinding Project (CIP Project #E16502134). The approved budget for the project—which also includes the first phase of wayfinding—is \$150,000, which staff anticipated funding through a combination of Traffic Impact Mitigation Fees, Street Maintenance Funds, and grant funding.

By motion, PBAC may:

1. Authorize the Chair to sign a letter of support to City Council for TDA3 funding for the Active Transportation Plan (staff recommendation),
2. Reject the staff recommendation and suggest alternate project candidates, or
3. Reject the staff recommendation and roll the TDA3 fund balance over for consideration in the next cycle.

Upon approval by City Council, staff will submit the grant application and expects a decision in June. Funds would be available in July 2023.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The proposed action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15378, in that applying for a grant does not meet CEQA's definition of a "project," because the action does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

## **CITYWIDE GOALS & PRIORITIES**

The Active Transportation Plan supports the following Council Workplan Items:

- #18: Establish and improve paths, as useful transportation options, and make walking and biking easy, fun and safe.
- #20: Better integration of multi-modal transportation with street designs.
- #26: Update the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian plan and realize opportunities for crosstown connections for all modes of transportation.
- #79: Improve traffic safety through proactive education, engineering, and enforcement strategies.
- #85: Implement City Vision Zero plan with a focus on pedestrian and cyclist safety with improvements to uncontrolled crosswalks, curb ramps, sidewalk, and bicycle infrastructure.

- #119: Establish bicycle and walking paths and other river access amenities along the Petaluma River as identified in the River Access and Enhancement Plan.
- #218: Look at ways/locations to increase river footbridges

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. PBAC Letter of Support for Active Transportation Plan (For Signature by Chair Bond)
- B. TDA3 Call for Projects FY23-24