



April 30, 2009

The Honorable Jackie Speier
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Reauthorization Request

Dear Representative Speier:

I am writing in support of Ocean Avenue Streetscape Improvements, a high priority project request for consideration in the upcoming Surface Transportation reauthorization legislation. The proposed project will connect public open spaces, cultural and social destinations, and transit connections, and spur economic growth through the creation of approximately 315 jobs. The infrastructure improvements may include street tree plantings, tree grates, curb bulb-outs, paving, pedestrian lighting, widened sidewalks, street re-striping and transit shelters.

The Board approved Balboa Park Station Area Plan went through an extensive and transparent review process, which included hundreds of community meetings and hearings. A Citizens Advisory Committee –which advises both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors – will continue to monitor the implementation of the Plan and will provide abundant opportunity for public comment. While the Ocean Avenue Streetscape Improvements project may fall just outside the scope of the Balboa Park Station Area Plan, the community input that shaped the Plan will also inform the development of this project. The Ocean Avenue Streetscape Improvements project will expand the reach of the Balboa Park Station Area Plan and revitalize a greater stretch of this important corridor in Southwest San Francisco. The proposed project will be carried out by the Department of Public Works in coordination with other City agencies in consultation with community advocacy groups and business associations.

The project is estimated to cost \$10.5 million. Approximately \$2.1 million (20%) will be secured from state sources. The remaining \$8.4 million is the subject of this request.

The City and County of San Francisco strongly supports the efforts of the Department of Public Works to implement the Ocean Avenue Streetscape Improvements with this priority project reauthorization request in order to advance the greater Balboa Park Station Area Plan.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Edward Reiskin, Director of Public Works at (415) 554-6920.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom
Mayor

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier (CA-12)
Member-Designated High Priority Project (HPP) Questionnaire
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Friday, May 1, 2009 @ 9:00 p.m. (P.D.T.)

Please submit this form along with any additional material to Cookab Hashemi, chief of staff via email at Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov or fax, 202/226-4183. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Cookab Hashemi at 202/225-3531.

The questionnaire must be filled out in its entirety. In addition, it must be accompanied by at least one letter of support from a state, regional, or local government official specifically supporting the project request. This letter should discuss the merits of the project; specify the process to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the project; and identify the other sources of Federal, state or private funding that will be used to complete this project or project phase.

The letter must contain an explicit statement of support for the project. In addition, if you are requesting less than 80 percent of the total estimated cost of the specific segment or activity, the letter must identify other specifically designated Federal, state, local or private funding sources that, combined with the Member request, equal at least 80 percent of the total estimated cost. Please use **BOLDFACE FONT** to highlight these statements in the letter.

All questionnaires and accompanying documents will be posted on the Congresswoman's website as required by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Lastly, all project requests will be evaluated before the 12th Congressional District's Citizens Oversight Panel. Appointments to appear before the panel must be made through Cookab Hashemi, chief of staff, at 202/225-3531 or Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov. **The Citizens Oversight Panel meeting will be held on Monday, May 4, 2009.**

1. **Project Title:** Ocean Avenue Streetscape Improvements

2. **Organization (project sponsor) Name and Address:** *(if state or local entity, please identify specific department requesting funding)*
City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Works
30 Van Ness Ave., 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

3. **Primary contact name, phone, cell and fax numbers and email address:**

Kris Opbroek
Project Manager
Direct Office: (415) 558-4045
Fax: (415) 558-4519
Email: Kris.Opbroek@sfdpw.org

4. **Project location address (if different from the organization):**

5. **Please provide a brief description of the project. (Please describe in 250 words or less.)**

The Ocean Avenue Streetscape project would implement complete street and sidewalk enhancements to benefit all users of the road.

6. **What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in the 12th Congressional District? (Please describe in 250 words or less.)**

The project will revitalize the corridor, enhance quality of life and economic vitality, and create approximately 315 jobs.

7. **Are you requesting Federal funds for more than one project in this bill? If yes, please list projects in order of priority requests for your organization.**

1. Design & Construct Curb Ramps for Pedestrian and Disability Access

Project Cost: \$17,500,000

Request Amount: \$14,000,000

Congressional Representative: Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House

2. Civic Boulevard (Folsom Street) Streetscape Improvements

Project Cost: \$10,000,000

Request Amount: \$8,000,000

Congressional Representative: Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House

3. Ocean Avenue Streetscape Improvements (subject request)

Project Cost: \$10,500,000

Request Amount: \$8,400,000

Congressional Representative: Congresswoman Jackie Speier

8. **Are you requesting funds from other Members of Congress? If yes, which Members?**

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House

9. Please select which type of eligible project under Title 23 (Highways) or Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit) of the U.S. Code is the project request? Please select from the options below.

▪ **FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY & BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PROJECT**

- Highway/road
 - Located on a Federal-aid highway

10. Did the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, or State Department of Transportation,¹ or public transit agency confirm that the project is eligible under Title 23 (Highways) or Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit) of the United States Code?

▪ **Which entity confirmed the project eligibility?**

- **Public Transit Agency** San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Maria Lombardo, Chief Deputy Director
(415) 522-4802

- According to the entity, is the project eligible under Title 23, Title 49, or both Titles 23 and title 49?

- Title 23 (Highways)

11. Please identify the state, regional, or local government entity that is an eligible recipient of the funds. Please include name and address.

City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Works
City Hall Room 348
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

12. Please identify and describe the specific segment or activity for which project funding is requested.

Project description: Implement street and streetscape improvements along Ocean Avenue from Junipero Serra Boulevard to Sunset Boulevard. Project elements may include all or some of the following: repaving, street tree plantings, tree grates, curb bulb-outs, curb ramps, pedestrian lighting, widened sidewalks, street re-striping and transit shelters.

Project activities:

- Construct
- Plan

- Design
- Engineer
- Environmental Review
- Rehabilitate
- Install
- Implement

What is the total estimated cost?

\$10,500,000

What amount is being requested?

\$8,400,000

What percentage of the total estimated cost is the request for Federal funding?

80%

Please identify the source and amount of funding.

\$2,100,000 State (Proposition 42)

13. If you are requesting funding for a specific segment or activity, please describe the overall project of which this segment/activity is a part.

- Project description (please limit your response to 3-4 sentences.)
- Total estimated cost

Funding request is for implementation of street and streetscape improvements along Ocean Avenue from Junipero Serra Boulevard to Sunset Boulevard with at total cost of \$10,500,000.

14. Is the project included in the State's Long-Range Transportation Plan?

- No

15. Is the project included in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and/or State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)?

- No

16. If the project is an intercity passenger rail project, is it included in the State Rail Plan?

- N/A

17. Please describe the current status of the project and the expected schedule for its completion.

- *Current status of project*
 - Federal-aid Highway projects:

- In Planning

FY 2010-11

- In Environmental Review FY 2010-11
- In Final Design FY 2011-12
- In Right-of-Way Acquisition N/A
- Under Construction FY 2012-13

- **What is the expected date of completion of the project for which you are requesting funding? FY 2012-13**

18. Does the project have regional or national significance?

- Yes, the project will improve mobility, address public safety concerns and implement repairs and improvements along one of San Francisco's major arterial streets.

19. Describe the safety, economic development, mobility, and environmental benefits associated with completion of the project.

- *Safety Benefits*
 - Pedestrian improvements such as curb ramps, curb bulb-outs and lighting will enhance safety and accessibility for pedestrians and people with disabilities; while roadway resurfacing and bike lane improvements will make streets smoother and more enjoyable for bicyclists and motorists.
- *Economic Development Benefits*
 - A revitalized Ocean Avenue will increase visitor trips to local commerce by providing a safe, accessible, and attractive pedestrian environment. Revitalization of the corridor will better connect the neighborhood as well as the local City and State Colleges.
- *Mobility Benefits*
 - Improvements along Ocean Avenue will enhance mobility for all users of the street. Curb ramps and reconstructed sidewalks will improve accessibility for pedestrians and people with disabilities; while roadway repaving will enhance safety and comfort for bicyclists and motorists.
- *Environmental Benefits*
 - Environmental benefits will include an enhanced urban forest with new street trees and tree furnishings as well as low-lying and above-ground drought-tolerant landscaping. The renewed street design will incorporate stormwater management controls where possible. These improvements will sustainably revitalize the streetscape and support the City's water conservation and emissions reduction efforts.

20. Has the project previously received any Federal funding? If so, please list the Source, Amount of Funding and Amount Obligated. (Please see categories below.)

- No

21. Has the project received any prior funding from a State, local, or private source?

- No

22. Please provide the proposed legislative text (in no more than 250 characters) of the project as you would like it to appear in the bill.

Implement roadway and streetscape improvements along Ocean Avenue in San Francisco.

23. Please include any additional information that should be considered with the project request.

This project will expand upon the Balboa Station Area Plan approved by the Board of Supervisors. The proposed scope will enhance the neighborhood and commercial corridor improving the quality of life and economic vitality of this Southwest San Francisco community.

**Please return this form and at least one local or state letter or support no later than Friday, May 1, 2009 via email or fax to:
Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov or 202/226-4183 (fax).**