

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](mailto: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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov). **The Citizens Oversight Panel meeting will be held on Monday, May 4, 2009.**

1. **Project Title:** Improvements Related to the Caltrain Grade Separation Project
2. **Organization (project sponsor) Name and Address:**

City of San Bruno  
Public Works Department  
567 El Camino Real  
San Bruno, CA 94066

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

Jim Shannon, Management Analyst  
(650) 616-7046 office

(650) 759-5411 cell

(650) 794-1443 fax

[jshannon@sanbruno.ca.gov](mailto:jshannon@sanbruno.ca.gov)

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

Near and around the railroad passing through San Bruno.

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

Related to the Caltrain Grade Separation Project in San Bruno but not funded by that effort, the proposed project will create enhanced pedestrian connections, landscaping improvements, traffic mitigation and utility rehabilitation. Though broad in effort the project will encompass the following:

- Install enhanced lighting and landscaping features in and around the grade separation's pedestrian under crossings;
- Create clear, accessible pedestrian connections to these under crossings through the construction of sidewalk, ADA ramps and landscape features that trap and filter stormwater runoff;
- Provided enhanced access to Posy Park, an open space in the heart of downtown San Bruno;
- Realign certain utilities to be more adequately serviceable after completion of the grade separation; and
- Invest in a planning effort to mitigate the realigned traffic flows in and around the downtown area.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District? (Please describe in 250 words or less.)**

Though the grade separation will greatly enhance safety by separating trains from vehicles and pedestrians, it brings with it significant challenges to maintain pedestrian connections where the tracks divide regions, to mitigate the unforeseen changes in traffic circulation, and to continue to provide high quality utility service. This proposed project will ensure that neighborhoods bordering the downtown maintain attractive and useful pedestrian crossings with

appropriate lighting and landscape features. Once complete, the City will also be more prepared to respond to changing traffic patterns and necessary changes to the layout of underground utilities. Aside from the job creation resulting from the wide ranging construction activities, as a whole, our proposal will make certain that the transformation that will begin with the grade separation will result in more connected, economically sustainable neighborhoods.

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.**

No.

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

No.

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.**

The project is eligible under Title 23 (Highways) and Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit)

▪ **FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY**

- Highway/road, bridge, tunnel, bicycle/pedestrian project, intelligent transportation system project, ferry boats or ferry boats facilities, intermodal freight facility or other.

- For each type of project, please note if it is located on a Federal-aid highway, located on the National Highway System, and located on the Interstate System.

- **PUBLIC TRANSIT** (Public transit refers to transportation services provided to the general public via a variety of vehicle modes, including buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, monorail, passenger ferry boats, transit van pools, streetcars, inclined railways, and paratransit vehicles. Public transit does not include school bus or charter bus services, nor intercity passenger rail (such as Amtrak), high-speed rail, or private rail operations. For these types of rail projects, please proceed to the Rail section of the form.)

- Corridor Development

**10. Did the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, or State Department of Transportation,<sup>1</sup> 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?**

Yes.

- Which entity confirmed the project eligibility?
- California Dept. of Transportation
  - i. John Brewster, Local Assistance Engineer
  - ii. (510) 286-6485
- According to the entity, is the project eligible under Title 23, Title 49, or both Titles 23 and title 49?
  - Both Title 23 and Chapter 53 of Title 49

**11. Please identify the state, regional, or local government entity that is an eligible recipient of the funds. Please include name and address. (For example, a State Department of Transportation, public transit agency, Metropolitan Planning Organization, local government or Federally-recognized tribe.)**

City of San Bruno  
567 El Camino Real  
San Bruno, CA 94066

**12. Please identify and describe the specific segment or activity for which project funding is requested. (The request must finance at least 80 percent of the total estimated cost of the specific segment or activity by either 1.) the amount requested; or 2.) the amount requested in addition to other specifically designated Federal, state, local or private funding sources.)**

**Project description:** (Include the specific terminus points of the project or activity, as appropriate.)

Most of the project will take place near the railroad right-of-way running north and south through San Bruno.

**Project activities:** (You may select more than one.)

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<sup>1</sup>

- **Construct**
- **Plan**
- **Design**
- **Engineer**
- Conduct
- **Environmental Review**
- Acquire right-of-the-way
- Conduct alternatives analysis
- Research
- Develop
- Demonstrate
- Deploy
- Reconstruct
- **Rehabilitate**
- Replace
- Retrofit
- **Install**
- **Mitigate**
- Implement
- **Realign**

What is the total estimated cost? (Please write out in numeral form, e.g. \$2,000,000, not \$2 million)

**\$8,000,000**

What amount is being requested? (Please write out in numeral form.)

**\$8,000,000**

What percentage of the total estimated cost is the request for Federal funding?  
(If the percentage is less than 80%, please identify other specifically designated Federal, state, local or private funding that when combined with this request equal at least 80 percent.)

**100%**

Please identify the source and amount of funding.

**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.**

Requesting funding for entire project.

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?

*Not applicable.*

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**
    - In Environmental Review
    - In Final Design
    - In Right-of-Way Acquisition
    - Under Construction
- **What is the expected date of completion of the project for which you are requesting funding? (Between fiscal years 2010 through 2020)**

2014

18. Does the project have regional or national significance? (A project of regional and national significance is typically a high-cost transportation infrastructure facility that often includes multiple levels of government, agencies, modes of transportation, and transportation goals and planning processes that are not easily addressed or funded within existing surface transportation program categories. These projects have national and/or regional benefits, including improving economic productivity by facilitating international trade, relieving congestion, and improving transportation safety by facilitating passenger and freight movement.)

*Not applicable.*

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

- *Safety Benefits*
  - Ensures pedestrians have clear accessible means to pass through the pedestrian underground crossings. Allows for the careful planning of traffic realignment.
- *Economic Development Benefits*
  - Will significantly enhance the downtown corridor attracting local and regional businesses to the area. Will also make the area more attractive for mixed-use development.
- *Mobility Benefits*
  - Addresses the need of all pedestrians, including those requiring special access features.
- *Environmental Benefits*
  - Constructing high quality pedestrian facilities helps promote more pedestrian uses and decrease reliance on the automobile, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

**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. (Please note that project line items carry the force of law, and can only be amended through subsequent public laws. If Congressional intent (as established through answers listed on this form, or in letters to the Committee) is different from the legislative text, the entity administering the project is required to adhere to the statutory language.)**

Improvements related to the San Bruno Caltrain Grade Separation Project involves the planning and construction of enhanced pedestrian connections, landscaping improvements, traffic mitigation and utility rehabilitation.

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

**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).**





CITY OF SAN BRUNO

Connie Jackson  
City Manager

CITY MANAGER

May 1, 2009

Congresswoman Jackie Speier  
211 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: **Letter of Support for HPP—Improvements Related to the Caltrain  
Grade Separation Project for the City of San Bruno**

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

On behalf of the City of San Bruno, I am pleased to submit to the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District's Citizens Oversight Panel our project proposal for the enhancement of pedestrian connections, landscaping improvements, traffic mitigation and utility rehabilitation related to the San Bruno Caltrain Grade Separation Project. **Should this project receive funding, my staff will diligently complete all work in a thoughtful and timely manner.** The San Bruno community is eagerly anticipating the construction of Caltrain's Grade Separation Project that will allow for the separation of roadways and train tracks in San Bruno. Though the grade separation will greatly enhance safety, it brings with it significant challenges to maintain pedestrian connections where the tracks divide regions, to mitigate the unforeseen changes in traffic circulation, and to continue to provide high quality utility service.

This improvement project will ensure that neighborhoods bordering the downtown maintain attractive and useful pedestrian crossings with appropriate lighting and landscape features. Once complete, the City will also be more prepared to respond to changing traffic patterns and necessary changes to the layout of underground utilities. As a whole, our proposal will make certain that the transformation that will begin with the grade separation will result in more connected and economically sustainable neighborhoods.

Much of the public process for this project is currently being undertaken by the development of the Downtown Transit Corridors Specific Plan. Guided by a steering committee of residents, business owners and local officials—in addition to multiple public workshops—the Corridors Plan will set the standard for the design of aesthetic, accessibility and utility improvements in the project area.

Due to the scale of this project and that it does not fit within the confines of many federal or state grant programs, I do not anticipate any additional outside funding. **The included request of \$8.0 million would fund the entire project.**

Thank you for efforts to secure the financial investment in public works so needed in this community. Please contact me or my staff should you have any questions regarding our proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Connie Jackson".

Connie Jackson  
City Manager

Attachment

cc: Klara Fabry, Public Services Director  
Jim Shannon, Management Analyst