REPORT

DATE: June 7, 2007

TO: Administrative Committee
Regional Council

FROM: Wayne Moore, Chief Financial Officer, 213-236-1804, moore@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Grant for Smart Growth Streets and Emergency Response

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize SCAG to apply for, and if awarded, accept, EPA grant funds for Smart Growth Streets and Emergency Response projects.

BACKGROUND:

The EPA seeks to bring together emergency response officials, local government officials, transportation experts and developers seeking to design smart growth neighborhoods to engage in a problem-solving process around the issue of simultaneously meeting the needs for emergency response with the design of smart growth streets. The goal is to create a solution or set of solutions that has the endorsement of these multiple interests and will be applicable nationally across the U.S. and/or in significant regions of the country. Grant funds will also support outreach efforts to educate relevant stakeholders nationally.

Required Scope Activities:

1. Conduct discussion roundtables including national/state representatives from the following areas: Fire/Emergency Response; Local Government; Transportation Engineers, Developers

2. Identify high priority research needs and develop a workplan

3. Establish current best practices guidelines

4. Training and outreach plans

Applications are due June 15, 2007 with awards to be announced in Fall 2007. The EPA expects to award $150,000 for Phase 1 (years 1 and 2) with the possibility of additional, incremental funding of up to $500,000 in total over a five year project period. No matching funds are required for this grant, but applications with either in-kind or cash match will be more favorably considered. Funding for future years is dependent on funding availability, agency priorities and applicant performance. EPA may award up to three assistance agreements nationwide.

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EPA grant funds will expand the financial resources available to SCAG to address transportation safety and security issues, as well as the integration of land use, transportation and environmental planning.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If awarded, the grant funds and the required associated match will be included in SCAG's Comprehensive Budget to conduct the approved project.

Reviewed by:

Division Manager

Reviewed by:

Chief Financial Officer

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