



March 11, 2015

**The Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Subject: Request for Approval -- Resolution giving the SFMTA blanket approval to enter into grant agreements in excess of 10 years with the BAAQMD to fund bicycle projects

The Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) requests that the Board of Supervisors approve a resolution giving the SFMTA blanket approval to enter into grant agreements with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to fund bicycle projects, when such agreements have a term in excess of 10 years.

Background

The SFMTA applies for funding for bicycle implementation projects (facilities and equipment) on a regular basis from BAAQMD. BAAQMD requires that the grant agreements for such projects remain open for the useful life of the equipment being purchased with the grant funds, which may be ten years or more, and include an additional three-year inspection period. Although the SFMTA has Charter authority to accept and expend grants, Charter Section 9.118(b) requires that contracts with a term over ten years be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Under SFMTA Board policy, any contract that requires approval by the Board of Supervisors under Charter Section 9.118 must first come to the SFMTA Board for approval. If not for the Charter Section 9.118 requirement, grant agreements could be approved by the Director of Transportation or his designee pursuant to a delegation from the SFMTA Board.

SFMTA Board Action

In order to expedite the implementation and reduce administration costs of bicycle projects, SFMTA staff obtained approval from the SFMTA Board on August 3, 2010 (Resolution No. 10-18) to seek a blanket resolution from the Board of Supervisors authorizing the SFMTA to enter into BAAQMD grant agreements without additional BOS approval for bicycle projects where the term of such agreements would be in excess of ten years. With the state of the economy in 2010, SFMTA chose not pursue BOS approval believing the resolution would have difficulties being passed out of committee. With the improved economy and strong support for the rapid rollout of bicycle and pedestrian improvements, SFMTA now feels the time is appropriate for this request.

Alternatives Considered

SFMTA staff requested that the BAAQMD limit its standard grant agreement language to a term of 10 years. The BAAQMD did not agree to this request.

Funding Impact

If the Board of Supervisors approves this resolution, the SFMTA will be able to receive grants from BAAQMD for bicycle projects on a more expedited basis, significantly reducing administrative time and costs, as well as the time to implement such projects.

Recommendation

The SFMTA recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve a resolution giving the SFMTA blanket approval to enter into grant agreements with BAAQMD to fund bicycle projects, when such agreements have a term in excess of 10 years.

Sincerely,



Edward D. Reiskin
Director of Transportation

