



Approve Community Design Funding Program Local Agency Extension Requests

Consent

Author: Gregory Chew

Attachments: Yes

Approved by: James Corless

Referring Committee: Transportation

Issue:

The cities of Davis and Winters are each requesting 12-month extensions for their 2021 Community Design grants. The program guidelines allow recipients a 12-month extension upon SACOG board approval.

Recommendation:

That the Transportation Committee unanimously recommends that the board approve the requests for extensions and authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and sign extension amendments.

Background/Analysis:

The SACOG Community Design Grant program provides funding to cities and counties in Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties to promote the SACOG Blueprint Principles. Those principles include transportation and housing options, infill, mixed use, compact development, protection of natural resources and quality design. Grants are awarded to local agencies approximately every two years. There are two categories of grants: competitive grants for project applicants seeking \$500,000 to \$4 million, and non-competitive grants from cities and counties that do not apply for competitive grants. The \$100,000 non-competitive category projects do not utilize federal or state funds. SACOG managed funds are used for these grants because they are flexible and allow for planning, community engagement and other activities that may not be allowed in the competitive category, which use federal or state funds. SACOG managed funds are subject to approval by the SACOG Board of Directors, including requests for grant extensions.

When non-competitive category projects are approved by the board in each funding cycle, recipients are given three years from the board approval date to complete their projects. If they cannot complete them in time, they may request a one-time 12-month extension with board approval. Grant recipients may also change their grant project with approval by the board. If the board approves, each recipient must sign an amendment to their memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the updated approved terms of the grant.

Two jurisdictions are seeking amendments to their grant MOUs. The cities of Davis and Winters are each seeking a 12-month grant extension to complete the grant work they have already started. The city of Davis' project is for street improvements to Fifth Street and Winters' grant is for pedestrian improvements to Grant Avenue.

Discussion/Analysis:

The program's goal is to help create more livable communities within the SACOG region. SACOG staff reviewed the requested grant changes and consider them to be consistent with the objectives of the Community Design Program. By approving each jurisdiction's request, these grants would be fully implemented as the local agencies intended and would therefore meet the Community Design Program goal. These extension requests have been submitted and approved by the board for every prior funding round that non-competitive Community Design grants have been awarded.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

There is no fiscal impact as the grants were already approved and budgeted for a prior fiscal year.