



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Redevelopment Agency's Report

DATE ISSUED: April 22, 2009

REPORT NO.: RA-09-09  
RTC-09-041

ATTENTION: Honorable Chair and Members of the  
Redevelopment Agency and  
Council President and Members of the City Council  
Docket of April 28, 2009

SUBJECT: West Camino de la Plaza Improvement Project – San Ysidro

### REQUESTED ACTION:

For the Agency:

1. Make necessary findings that the new streetscape and traffic lane improvements (Improvements) to be constructed along Camino de la Plaza between Virginia Avenue and the I-5 exit off-ramp within the San Ysidro Redevelopment Project Area (Project Area) will be of benefit to the Project Area, that there are no other reasonable means of financing the Improvements, that the Improvements will assist in the elimination of blight within the Project Area, and that the Improvements are consistent with the Third 5-Year Implementation Plan adopted on September 12, 2006 for the Project Area; and
2. Authorize the Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Diego (Agency) to transfer an amount not to exceed \$300,000 of tax increment funds from the Project Area, as allocated in its Fiscal Year 2009 Budget to the City of San Diego (City) for deposit into Fund 10269, as an increase in the Fiscal Year 2009 Capital Improvement Program Budget in CIP No. 39.091.0, West Camino de la Plaza Improvement Project to be used toward the cost of design and construction of the Improvements, contingent upon the City Comptroller certifying the availability of funds; and
3. Authorize the Agency to accept the return of any and all funds from this allocation remaining in the Fiscal Year 2009 Capital Improvement Program Budget in CIP No. 39.091.0, West Camino de la Plaza Improvement Project, Fund 10269 upon any cost savings should actual costs of the Improvements be less than \$300,000.

For the Council:

1. Make necessary findings that the new streetscape and traffic lane improvements (Improvements) to be constructed along Camino de la Plaza between Virginia Avenue and the I-5 exit off-ramp within the San Ysidro Redevelopment Project Area (Project Area) will be of benefit to the Project Area, that there are no other reasonable means of financing the Improvements, that the Improvements will assist in the elimination of blight within the Project Area, and that the Improvements are consistent with the Third 5-Year Implementation Plan adopted on September 12, 2006 for the Project Area; and

2. Authorize the City Comptroller to accept an amount not to exceed \$300,000 from the San Ysidro Redevelopment Project Area and deposit said funds into Fund 10269, West Camino de la Plaza Improvement Project; and
3. Authorize the City Comptroller to appropriate and expend an amount not to exceed \$300,000 from CIP No. 39.091.0, West Camino de la Plaza Improvement Project, Fund No. 10269; and
4. Authorize a \$300,000 increase in the Fiscal Year 2009 Capital Improvement Program Budget in CIP No. 39.091.0, West Camino de la Plaza Improvement Project, for the purpose of design and construction of the Improvements; and
5. Authorize the City Comptroller to transfer back to the Agency any and all funds from this allocation remaining in the Fiscal Year 2009 Capital Improvement Program Budget in CIP No. 39.091.0, West Camino de la Plaza Improvement Project, Fund 10269 upon any cost savings should actual costs of the Improvements be less than \$300,000.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council and Redevelopment Agency approve the Resolutions.

SUMMARY:

The requested actions regarding this item are to provide for City funding for the construction of new streetscape and traffic lane improvements along Camino de la Plaza between Virginia Avenue and the I-5 exit off ramp near the international border, within the San Ysidro Redevelopment Project Area. The proposed improvements shall include new sidewalks, curbs, and gutters, and an additional westbound traffic lane (see Attachment 1 – Project Location). The creation of an additional traffic lane along this segment of Camino de la Plaza is consistent with the San Ysidro Community Plan. Since the proposed improvements are hardscape only, no regular maintenance is required. The proposed improvements are estimated to cost \$300,000, and would be completed in Fiscal Year 2010.

The San Ysidro Port of Entry is the busiest international border crossing in the world. On a daily basis, thousands of visitors shop and conduct business in San Ysidro, and traverse to and from Mexico. San Ysidro's public infrastructure, including sidewalks, curbs, and other improvements are deficient in many areas, particularly in the surrounding areas of the international border crossing. The proposed improvements will eliminate physical blighting conditions, improve circulation, and create a safer environment for pedestrians and vehicular traffic.

In 2003, the City of San Diego ("City") originally added CIP No. 39.091.0 to the City's Capital Improvement Program for the purpose of improving the infrastructure along San Ysidro Boulevard. On July 29, 2003, both the Agency and the City jointly authorized an initial budget of \$270,000 for CIP No. 39.091.0, San Ysidro Boulevard Streetscape Improvements Project. On July 17, 2007, the Agency approved a \$600,000 increase to the budget of CIP No. 39.091.0 in order to facilitate construction of streetscape improvements on East San Ysidro Boulevard and Camino de la Plaza, between Camiones Way and East San Ysidro Boulevard. The improvements for this segment of Camino de la Plaza shall be completed in Fiscal Year 2009.

Pursuant to California Community Redevelopment Law (CCRL) at California Health and Safety Code Section 33445, the Agency is legally authorized to pay for the installation of public improvements if certain findings can be made by the Agency and the City Council in connection with the benefits and purposes of the proposed improvements. Attachment 2 – “Findings” proposes the necessary findings of the Agency and the City Council in connection with the proposed improvements that are required under CCRL Section 33445.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This activity is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (c), Existing Facilities.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Total construction costs are estimated at \$300,000 (pre-bid estimate). Funding is available from the San Ysidro Redevelopment Project Area Budget.

PREVIOUS AGENCY and/or COUNCIL ACTION:

1. In July 2003, the Agency and Council approved actions for general streetscape improvements in San Ysidro.
2. In July 2007, the Agency authorized the transfer of \$600,000 to CIP 39.091.0 for the City to construct streetscape improvements along Camino de la Plaza, between Camiones Way and East San Ysidro Boulevard. Furthermore, the Agency entered into an Agreement with the San Ysidro Improvement Corporation, dba San Ysidro Business Association (“SYBA”), for the SYBA to provide the daily maintenance of the improvements.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS:

On September 16, 2008, the San Ysidro Community Planning Group voted 10-0 in favor of the proposed Improvement Project. A project area committee does not currently exist in San Ysidro.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS & PROJECTED IMPACTS (if applicable):

None with this action.

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Redevelopment Agency/  
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City Planning & Community Investment

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William Anderson  
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Redevelopment Agency/  
Director,  
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- Attachments: 1. Project Location  
2. “Findings” pursuant to CCRL Section 33445