



City of Alameda, California

March 1, 2017

California Transportation Commission

Attn: Chair Bob Alvarado
Vice-Chair Fran Inman
Commissioner Yvonne Burke
Commissioner Lucetta Dunn
Commissioner James Earp
Commissioner James C. Ghielmetti
Commissioner Carl Guardino
Commissioner Christine Kehoe
Commissioner James Madaffer
Commissioner Joseph Tavaglione
Commissioner Honorable Jim Beall
Commissioner Honorable Jim Frazier

To the CTC Chair and Commissioners:

The Alameda Recreation and Parks Commission is requesting that the California Transportation Commission grant a 9-month extension for the Cross Alameda Trail Project [ATPL 5014 (042)] at its March 16, 2017 meeting. This 9-month extension is critical to ensure the success of this project.

Although the Cross Alameda Trail project is ready to go out to bid, the project was inadvertently left off the 2017 federal transportation budget (TIP) project list. The project is halted until the TIP budget amendment is approved, which will be in mid-April. A 6-month extension was originally requested because the project design required a soil remediation work plan approved by the Dept. of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) and it took significantly longer than originally anticipated to secure those approvals from DTSC. The 6-month extension leaves the City only 5 weeks to formally bid the project, finalize the terms, and have the City Council officially award the contract. This compressed timeline for a public procurement process would jeopardize the funding to build the Cross Alameda Trail. The six months was originally requested and feasible until it was realized that the project was left out of the TIP budget. A longer 9-month extension will provide enough time for the City to complete the appropriate public bid process after the TIP is approved and help to ensure this community-loved project is completed.

The Cross Alameda Trail is a 4 mile long path that spans the length of the City of Alameda, from the former Alameda Naval Base to the Miller Sweeney Bridge, connecting to the City of Oakland. The section of the Cross Alameda Trail runs through the Jean Sweeney Open Space Park, which is a 27-acre park that is being developed on former railroad property and has tremendous community and political support. This trail section will connect with two other trail sections now

in development and provide off-street bicycle/pedestrian access for Alameda residents, commuters, families, children who need safe routes to school, people accessing a major transportation hub at one end of the trail, and people connecting with valuable services at the adjacent Alameda Food Bank. This trail project is the first phase of the Jean Sweeney Open Space Park development and a cornerstone upon which the remaining park development is built.

Thank you for your consideration and I strongly urge you to grant an additional 3-months (for a total of 9 months) to the City of Alameda's extension request.

Sincerely,

Recreation and Parks Commission, City of Alameda

Chair Ruben Tilos

Vice-Chair William Delaney

Commissioner Marianne Carter

Commissioner Ron Limoges