File No. 14-1174-S40

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to Community Redevelopment Agency of Los Angeles (CRA/LA) Bond Oversight Committee report relative to appropriating CRA/LA Excess Non-Housing Bond Proceeds (EBP) for the Hollywood Walk of Fame Public Improvements Project (Project).

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. APPROVE, subject to the requirements as stated in the CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee report dated December 5, 2018, attached to the Council file, the appropriation of up to $323,937 in Taxable, and $3,758,635 in Tax-Exempt CRA/LA EBP for a total of $4,082,572 available to Council District 13 from the Hollywood Redevelopment Project Area (Project Area) for the Project.

2. AUTHORIZE, subject to the requirements as stated in the said CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee report, the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) to be the implementing department, and to expend funds up to $4,082,572 plus all earned interest from the EBP Fund No. 57D, 22L9FT Hollywood Taxable Series 2006-E, and Account No. 22L9FN, Hollywood Tax-Exempt Series 2008-F, for activities related to the Project upon presentation of proper documentation to, and satisfactory review by, the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Bond Expenditure Agreement.

3. AUTHORIZE the Controller, subject to the requirements as stated in the said CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee report and the availability of funds and duly executed and encumbered contracts, to provide the BOE with direct access of up to $4,082,572 plus all earned interest from the EBP Fund No. 57D, 22L9FT Hollywood Taxable Series 2006-E, and Account No. 22L9FN, Hollywood Tax-Exempt Series 2008-F, to process transactions related to the Project.

4. AUTHORIZE the BOE to develop a strategic Master Plan that is limited to preliminary planning as may be necessary to conduct the environmental review of the Project in an amount not to exceed $500,000 from the above-noted funds appropriated to the Project.

5. INSTRUCT the BOE to withhold expending or committing to expend any of the remainder of the above-noted funds appropriated to the Project until all of the following have occurred:

    a. The BOE has completed the preliminary planning documents and environmental review documents.

    b. The City has complied with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with respect to the Project, including obtaining any necessary CEQA clearances.

    c. The Board of Public Works (BPW) has considered and approved the Project for expenditure of the remaining funds.

6. FIND that the action of appropriating and withholding expenditure of funds for the Project

pending the completion, review, and consideration of planning and environmental documents related to the Project is not a project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), because it merely creates a funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity that does not commit the City to a project that may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment, and that preparing preliminary planning and environmental documents is not a project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) because it is an administrative activity that will not result in physical changes in the environment.

7. INSTRUCT the BOE to transmit copies of all contract awards related to the Project to the EWDD.

8. INSTRUCT the BOE to report on its work accomplishments to the City Administrator Officer (CAO), and fund expenditures to the EWDD, on a quarterly and as-needed basis.

9. AUTHORIZE the General Manager, EWDD, or designee, to prepare Controller instructions and/or make technical adjustments that may be required and are consistent with this action, subject to the approval of the CAO; and, AUTHORIZE the Controller to implement these instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee reports that there is no impact on the City's General Fund from the proposed appropriation of CRA/LA EBP. The CRA/LA EBP Fund No. 57D is funded solely from two transfers of approximately $86 million in pre-2011 tax allocation bond proceeds from CRA/LA to the City (Council file Nos. 14-1174 and 14-1174-S36). Said transfers have been deposited with the Controller.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

At the meeting held on December 11, 2018, your Economic Development Committee considered a CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee report relative to appropriating CRA/LA EBP for the Project.

The EWDD reports that the Hollywood Walk of Fame (Walk), a Historic Cultural Monument, dates back to 1956 when the Council approved the addition of stars to Hollywood Boulevard to honor individuals in the entertainment industry. It is comprised of approximately 2,600 stars along 1.8 miles of sidewalks over 15 blocks on Hollywood Boulevard and 3 blocks on Vine Street. The terrazzo sidewalk, a Must See for travelers and tourists, has endured enormous wear and tear. Preservation and maintenance efforts over the last 25 years have been temporary and ad hoc. They are neither reflective nor complementary to this landmark.

The need exists to assess and implement public improvements to the Walk. The process will involve hiring a design consultant to develop a Master Plan for preliminary planning of restoration and improvement activities, and an environmental consultant to assess environmental impacts of the work. After completion of the initial planning and environmental work, the BPW will consider whether or not to initiate physical improvements in various phases. The total project cost is expected to potentially reach $50 million, If approved by the BPW, the approximately $3.5 million in EBP would pay for public improvements in the areas where pedestrian safety is paramount.

After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Committee moved to approve the CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee's recommendations, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBER	VOTE
PRICE:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES

ME 12/11/18

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-