MOTION

Under obligations of the Willits' Settlement Agreement (Settlement), the City's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator for Pedestrian Rights of Way (PROW) establishes, disseminates, and enforces ADA-compliant City-wide standards, Federal and State requirements, practices, policies, and procedures affecting pedestrian accessibility in the City. The ADA Coordinator ensures compliance across all City departments, including the Department of Public Works (DPW), Department of Transportation (DOT), and other Proprietary Departments, who complete work on the City's PROW.

Additionally, the ADA Coordinator's responsibilities include preparing comprehensive written reports on Sidewalk Repair Program (SRP) compliance efforts, program improvements, program schedules, exemptions, Access Requests, grievances, complaints, and new construction compliance. The ADA Coordinator also investigates and responds to Settlement Class members' reasonable inquiries and complaints concerning access barriers; conducts SRP Program Access Improvement reviews, on-site visits/field checks, and plan reviews; and provides City-wide technical accessibility training and direction to personnel in various departments assigned to sidewalk repair and construction duties.

Given the large scope and scale of the responsibilities, an additional qualified staff position is needed to supplement the work of the ADA Coordinator. Current Bureau of Engineering (BOE) staff are primarily focused on project delivery and lack the specialized expertise and independence required to support the ADA Coordinator's complex work. BOE staff are filling in the gaps for certain ADA Coordinator functions, which diverts critical capacity away from delivering Sidewalk Repair Program (SRP) projects. The lack of dedicated support limits the City's ability to ensure compliance with ADA and civil rights requirements, increasing potential risk under the Settlement Agreement. Adding additional capacity is especially urgent as the ADA Coordinator's work expands to guide the City toward an accessible 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Settlement Agreement authorizes staff support for the ADA Coordinator and allows associated costs to be covered under the Settlement. Establishing a new Resolution Authority Civil Engineering Associate (CEA) IV Position in BOE will provide the necessary technical expertise, knowledge, and skills to supplement the capacity of the ADA Coordinator. The CEA IV will be required to obtain certification by the California Division of State Architect as a Certified Access Specialist (CASp) within 18 months of hire. The CEA IVE will strengthen the City's capacity by facilitating technical training for staff, expediting design and technical reviews, increasing responsiveness to requests for technical assistance, and ensuing greater consistency in disabled access compliance across the SRP, DPW and DOT projects, and major upcoming events, such as the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Funding for this position is available within funds currently allocated to the SRP and will count toward the City's annual commitment under the Settlement.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council authorize the addition of one Civil Engineering Associate IV resolution authority for the Bureau of Engineering's Sidewalk Repair Program to provide technical expertise, knowledge, and skills and supplement the capacity of the Bureau's ADA Coordinator, and to TRANSFER and APPROPRIATE \$105,859.12 from the Sidewalk Repair Fund No. 57F/50, Account No. 50Y178 (BOE Departmental Appropriation) and \$100,000 from Account No. 50A178 [TOTAL: \$205,859.12] to the Sidewalk Repair Fund No. 57F/50, Account No. 50C178 to fund the position.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Engineering be authorized to make any technical corrections, clarifications, or revisions to the above fund transfer instructions, including any new instructions, in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion, and including any accounting corrections and changes to fund or account numbers; said corrections clarifications / changes may be made cally, electronically, or by any other means.

PRESENTED BY

EUNISSES HERNANDEZ

Councilmember, 1st District

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