

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	April 28, 2022
SUBJECT:	Approve COVID Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Funds Projects
AGENDA ITEM:	14
STAFF CONTACT:	Kathy Urlie, Senior Transportation Planner

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors approve the following projects for use of \$855,186 of 2021 COVID Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) stimulus/relief funds:

- Fix 5 Cascade Gateway: \$500,000
- On-Call Engineering Consultant Contract for Project Development: \$355,186

DISCUSSION:

In 2021, Congress passed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), which provided funds to California that were ultimately apportioned to regions as both an amount for their Regional Transportation Improvement Programs (RTIPs), as well as an amount that each agency could program outside the RTIP. The intent was to provide funding to regions to compensate for the loss of revenue due to the pandemic. The amount made available through the RTIP, was \$1,380,046, and was incorporated into SRTA's 2022 RTIP approved December 14, 2021. The second amount for \$855,168 was STBGP funds.

In developing the 2022 RTIP in consultation with Caltrans, a need for matching funds was identified for the Fix 5 Gateway Project (F5CG). SRTA made an initial commitment by designating \$500,000 of the \$855,168 STBGP funds to the F5CG match needed. These funds will be used to show local commitment—similar to the Redding Area Six-Lane Project.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Based on discussions with local agency partners over the past several years, SRTA staff is recommending the remaining \$355,186 STBGP funds be made available for an on-call engineering consultant to assist in developing projects, so understaffed jurisdictions may still take advantage of funding opportunities from various grant programs. Given the upcoming heavy workload associated with the State Route 273 Corridor, and the development of multiple, complex active transportation projects, the SRTA Fiscal Committee agreed to test this type of assistance. The Technical Advisory Committee concurs with this recommendation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

These funds were apportioned in 2021 to SRTA for discretionary use. There is no adverse impact to SRTA's existing operating and planning budget.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Tiedgen", is written over a horizontal line.

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director