Council Business Meeting

September 17, 2019

Agenda Item	Clay Street Roadway Improvements Grant Letter of Support	
From	Scott Fleury, PE	Deputy Public Works Director
Contact	Scott.fleury@ashland.or.us; (541) 552-2412	

SUMMARY

Before the Council is a request for a letter of support for a Jackson County grant application to improve middle Clay Street to City standards.

POLICIES, PLANS & GOALS SUPPORTED

City Council:

1.1 Engage community in a conversation about core services, desired service levels and funding mechanisms.

4. Evaluate real property and facility assets to strategically support city mission and goals.

21. Be proactive in using best practices in infrastructure management and modernization.

22. Prepare for the impact of climate change on the community.
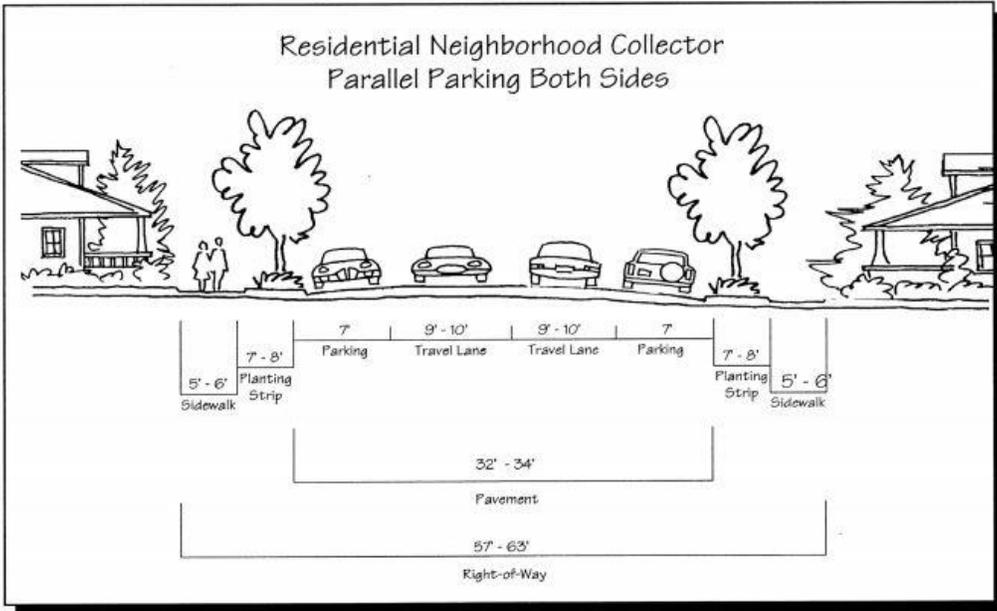
Department Goals:
- Maintain existing infrastructure to meet regulatory requirements and minimize life-cycle costs
- Deliver timely life cycle capital improvement projects
- Maintain and improve infrastructure that enhances the economic vitality of the community
- Evaluate all city infrastructure regarding planning management and financial resources

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION

The City has previously coordinated with Jackson County on grant applications and jurisdictional transfers of roadways that have been improved to City standards. The last project was Peachey Road. Peachey Road was improved to City standards by Jackson County and the City accepted jurisdictional transfer via resolution at the June 2, 2015 business meeting.

BACKGROUND AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Middle Clay Street from Siskiyou Boulevard to its terminus at Faith Street is under the jurisdictional control of Jackson County and the Oregon Department of Transportation. The chip sealed roadway is maintained by Jackson County and generally has no other formal improvements, i.e. sidewalk or park row. Middle Clay Street is classified as a residential neighborhood collector with 60 feet of dedicated right of way (see cross section below). The City requires a roadway to be brought up to City standards, which include; full width paving, sidewalk and park row before approving a jurisdictional transfer for ownership of the roadway. Public Works staff has received numerous complaints from adjacent residents over the years regarding the overall paved surface condition of Clay Street and its lack of sidewalk connections to Siskiyou Boulevard and Ashland Street. Jackson County wishes to fully improve middle Clay Street to City standards and after completion of the project have the City approve a jurisdictional transfer resolution. The jurisdictional transfer will come back to Council for formal approval once the project is completed. The grant letter of support indicates Councils intent to move forward with negotiations and eventual transfer once all improvements are made.

CITY OF ASHLAND

Residential Neighborhood Collector
Parallel Parking Both Sides

The Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (RVMPO) is now accepting grant applications to fund improvement projects within the RVMPO boundary. This is a competitive grant application process for limited federal funds and applications are due by September 30, 2019. The funding period for this cycle of grant applications is for years 2022-2024. Jackson County intends to submit a grant application request to fund full improvements for middle Clay Street and will list the City of Ashland as a partner on the application. In addition, Jackson County and Public Works staff request the Council provide a letter of support for the project to be included with the application. The proposed letter of support is attached.

FISCAL IMPACTS
Fiscal impacts to the City for the improvement of middle Clay Street are still to be fully determined if Jackson County is successful with the grant application. Primary soft costs would be staff time as Jackson County is asking the City to deliver the project if a successful grant application is realized. City staff time for project delivery would include managing the engineering, permitting, public outreach, and construction phases and is in line with duties already performed by engineering staff. The improvements to middle Clay Street are estimated at $4,989,958 with a 10.27 percent minimum match of $512,469. Jackson County is requesting any additional match requirements that exceed the $512,469 base would be absorbed by the City of Ashland.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends the Council authorize the Mayor to sign the grant application letter of support.

ACTIONS, OPTIONS & POTENTIAL MOTIONS
I move to approve the Mayor signing a letter of support for Jackson County's grant application to improve middle Clay Street to City standards.

REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS
Attachment 1: Letter of support
Attachment 2: Clay Street Project Boundary Map

CITY OF
ASHLAND

September 17, 2019

Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
Attn: Mike Quilty, Chair
155 North 1st Street
Central Point, OR 97502

Dear Mr. Quilty,

The City of Ashland expresses our full support for Jackson County's Clay Street project funding application. This coordinated project between Jackson County and the City Ashland will enhance a local collector by providing a full street improvement between Siskiyou Boulevard and Faith Avenue.

The densely populated area around this section of Clay Street would benefit immensely from full street improvements including sidewalks to provide much needed pedestrian connectivity to the Siskiyou School, Clay Street Park, Ashland Street, Siskiyou Boulevard and the local transit stops in the area.

If awarded the City of Ashland intends to accept the jurisdictional transfer of middle Clay Street and be the project manager for the improvement for Jackson County. The City has the staff resources to successfully deliver these functional street improvements and looks forward to another successful partnership with Jackson County.

Sincerely,

John Stromberg
Mayor

Project Boundary

Ashland St

Faith St

Clay St

Siskiyou Blvd

Project Boundary

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CITY OF ASHLAND