## CITY OF OJAI CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 15-17

## A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

SUPPORTING PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE IMPROVEMENTS ON OJAI AVENUE AND MARICOPA HIGHWAY, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM GRANT FOR THESE IMPROVEMENTS AND TO USE A CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY GRANT FOR MATCHING FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City Council's goals include crosswalk safety improvements, taking advantage of opportunities to leverage City money with grants, traffic calming efforts, implementation of Complete Streets projects, and additional bike lanes; and

WHEREAS, a grant opportunity exists under the new Active Transportation Program (ATP), created by State Senate Bill 99 and Assembly Bill 101; and

WHEREAS, the City's proposed project meets the goals of the ATP by encouraging active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking, facilitating greenhouse gas reductions, ensuring disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program, contributing to reductions in childhood obesity, and promoting the community's health and fitness by increasing walking and biking opportunities in the City; and

WHEREAS, a consistent concern expressed by residents in recent years and by the Complete Streets Committee, and emphasized by residents during the recent Complete Streets Master Plan outreach effort, is pedestrian crossing safety on Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway and the provision of an improved City bike and sidewalk network; and

WHEREAS, the proposed grant-funded project installs high visibility crosswalks including rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) at non-signalized crossings on Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway, in pavement lighting at the Arcade pedestrian crossing, and curb-extensions for each crossing; and

WHEREAS, RRFBs were recently installed at the existing pedestrian crossing on Ojai Avenue at Ventura Street with very positive public; and

WHEREAS, installing RRFBs in combination with carefully designed curb extensions, will greatly increase the safety of pedestrian crossings which is expected to promote "active transportation", or biking and walking, within the City; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project includes bike lanes on Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway which will initiate a bike network for the City and provide bike lanes between primary schools, restaurant and store areas, bus and trolley stops, adjacent residential areas, and community centers; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project provides for parallel parking between Canada St. and Ventura St. on Ojai Ave which will promote a more pedestrian friendly sidewalk; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project includes infilling of missing sidewalks along the route of the proposed biking and walking improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the City recently was awarded a \$500,000 CMAQ grant to improve the visibility of the crosswalks on Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway which will be used as matching funds in the ATP grant application.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OJAI DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS

**SECTION 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and are hereby incorporated by reference.

**SECTION 2**. The City Council hereby declares its support for the proposed bike and pedestrian improvements on Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway.

**SECTION 3.** The City Manager is authorized to apply for the Active Transportation Program grant for the proposed bike and pedestrian improvements on Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway and is authorized to use the recently awarded \$500,000 CMAQ grant to improve the visibility of the crosswalks on Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway as matching funds for the Active Transportation Program grant. The City Manager is authorized to execute all related applications, authorizations, assurances, or other documents needed to complete the application for the Active Transportation Program grant.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 26th day of May 2015 by the following roll call

vote:

AYES:

Blatz, Clapp, Haney, Lara, Weirick

NOES:

ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

None None

None

CITY OF OJAI, CALIFORNIA

Severo Lara, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rhonda Basore

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Watthe Luwer

Matthew Summers, City Attorney