

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
June 10, 2005

ITEM: **10**

SUBJECT: **Potential Federal Transportation Enhancement Funds for Pedestrian Bridge at Mission Valley Library**

The Conservancy Governing Board will consider and possibly adopt a resolution (*tentative Resolution 05-11*) authorizing the Executive Officer to prepare a letter in support of the City's application for \$2 million in federal Transportation Enhancement funds. The funds would be used to design and construct a pedestrian/bicycle bridge over the San Diego River adjacent to the Mission Valley Library. The funding will be administered through SANDAG as part of the Smart Growth Incentive Program Funding. (*Deborah Jayne*)

PURPOSE: Consideration and possible adoption of tentative Resolution 05-11.

DISCUSSION: SANDAG is administering a \$17 million incentive program to promote smart growth development. The Smart Growth Incentive Program will help local agencies develop model smart growth communities that are walkable, mixed use and transit supportive. Funding will go to projects that integrate smart growth land uses and transportation facilities. There is a \$2 million cap per project. Eligible applicants under the program are the region's 18 cities, the County of San Diego, and the region's two transit operators.

When this item was placed on today's agenda, the City of San Diego had decided to submit an application for Smart Growth Incentive Program funding to pay for the design and construction of a pedestrian/bicycle bridge. The bridge would have been located at the Fenton Parkway Trolley Station, and provided trolley access to people who live and work on the south side of the River.

Although the concept of a bridge has not been eliminated, the City of San Diego has decided to NOT submit an application to

the Smart Growth Incentive Program for this project. However, the City of San Diego may submit an application for funding an alternate project. Another project which may meet the eligibility requirements and is under consideration is to extend the bike path under Interstate 805 (i.e., complete small missing segment of the path along the River).

The Executive Officer is requesting authorization to prepare a letter of support for any alternate project the City of San Diego may propose which she considers supportive of the mission of the San Diego River Conservancy. The applications for funding are due June 24, 2005 and the Board will not have the opportunity to review the specific details of the proposed project due to timeline constraints.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS:

1. Tentative Resolution 05-11
2. SANDAG Announcement "Smart Growth Incentive Program"

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt tentative Resolution 05-11.