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DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

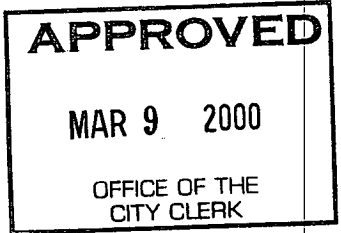
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TECHNICAL SERVICES  
DIVISION

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February 15, 2000

City Council  
Sacramento, California



Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – AB 1475**

**LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT:**

Citywide. All Districts

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This report recommends that the City Council take the following actions:

1. Approve the attached resolution for prioritization of projects submitted for funding through the Safe Routes to School Program (AB 1475).
2. Direct staff to work with Council Member Jones' office, Will C. Wood Middle School, Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates, the Sacramento Valley Organizing Committee and the Smog Squad to collect the appropriate data for the Will C. Wood safety improvements.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Gwen Owens, Associate Engineer, 264-8299

**FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:** March 9, 2000

**SUMMARY:**

The new Safe Routes to School program will provide \$20 million to local agencies statewide. The purpose of the program is to make safety improvements for school-related travel. Proposed projects need to be easily deliverable, without major right-of-way issues or complex environmental studies.

The City of Sacramento is required to prioritize its requested projects prior to submission to Caltrans. Each project will compete for funding against all other submitted projects statewide. The following projects have been prioritized based upon rating factors and criteria set out in the program guidelines:

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1. Installation of a signal at Norwood Avenue and Morey Way to serve Del Paso Heights Elementary School.
2. Installation of new crosswalks, advance warning signage, and crosswalk legends at various schools.
3. Upgrading existing school crosswalk signage to fluorescent yellow and upgrading existing uncontrolled crosswalk striping to the current standard.
4. Installing curb gutter and sidewalk on 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, from Elder Creek Road to Morrison Creek plus upgrading the paved path through the Wood School Park to improve walking access to Will C. Wood Middle School.
5. Installation of sidewalk on the east side of 65<sup>th</sup> Street Expressway, from Elder Creek to Lemon Hill, near Will C. Wood Middle School.

**COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:**

None.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 1475, one-third of the annual Federal Highway Administration safety funds from railroad grade crossings and other transportation safety programs have been directed to the Safe Routes to Schools program. The program will receive approximately \$20 million in FY 99/00 and \$20 million in FY 00/01. The State of California is currently soliciting projects for FY 99/00 funding.

Eligible projects must address a specific pedestrian and/or bicycle safety problem on a public or private school route. Proposed projects must be easy to deliver without complex right-of-way or environmental processes.

Caltrans has established the following factors and criteria to rate projects:

- Demonstrated need for the project
- Potential for reducing child injuries and fatalities
- Potential for encouraging increased walking and bicycling among students
- Identification of safety hazards
- Identification of current and potential walking and bicycling routes to school
- Support by school-based associations, traffic engineers, elected officials, law enforcement agencies, and school officials.

- Approval by California Highway Patrol, when required.
- Potential of timely implementation of project.
- Degree to which project is upgraded to existing standards, including American with Disabilities Act requirements.
- Number of pedestrians and bicyclists currently using the route.
- Number of pedestrian and bicyclists expected to use the improved route.
- Degree to which project reduces “exposure” of pedestrians and bicyclists to vehicular traffic.
- Benefit/Cost ratio of the project.
- Ability to leverage other funding sources for related improvements.
- Ability to leverage other funding sources for education, enforcement, and encouragement activities.
- Comprehensiveness, completeness, and accuracy of project application.

School-based institutions can develop project proposals but must submit the projects through the City of Sacramento. Department of Public Works staff will complete the applications and send them to Caltrans for consideration of Safe Route to Schools funding.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Projects that are funded through the Safe Routes to School Program will likely be funded at a 90% level with a required 10% local match. Staff has not currently identified the potential funding source for the local match. For projects that are funded through the Safe Routes to School Program, staff will identify the matching funding source when the Capital Improvement project is established.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Prioritization of projects is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), under CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(1) and 15378(b)(3). In the event that the City of Sacramento receives Safe Route to Schools funding to implement any of these projects, the projects will be evaluated per CEQA requirements.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

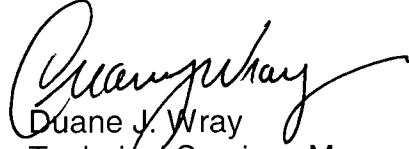
The construction of these projects will provide safer access to schools and improve overall public safety. City participation in the Safe Route to Schools program is consistent with Council's emphasis on developing City and school district partnerships.

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**ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:**

None, as no services are being procured.

Respectfully submitted,



Duane J. Wray  
Technical Services Manager

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



ROBERT P. THOMAS  
City Manager

Approved:



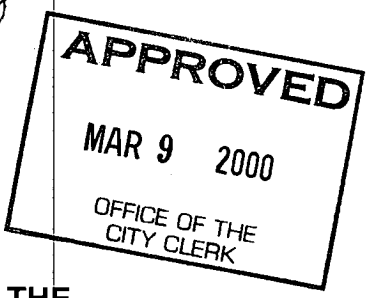
Michael Kashiwagi  
Director of Public Works

DJW/GO:eaj  
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**RESOLUTION NO. 2000-098**

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_



**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE  
PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECTS SUBMITTED FOR  
FUNDING THROUGH THE SAFE ROUTES TO  
SCHOOL PROGRAM (AB 1475).**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:**

- I. Approve the prioritization of the projects submitted for funding through the Safe Routes to School Program (AB 1475).
  - 1. Installation of a signal at Norwood Avenue and Morey Way to serve Del Paso Heights Elementary School.
  - 2. Installation of new crosswalks, advance warning signage, and crosswalk legends at various schools.
  - 3. Upgrading existing school crosswalk signage to fluorescent yellow and upgrading existing uncontrolled crosswalk striping to the current standard.
  - 4. Installing curb gutter and sidewalk on 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, from Elder Creek Road to Morrison Creek plus upgrading the paved path through the Wood School Park to improve walking access to Will C. Wood Middle School.
  - 5. Installation of sidewalk on the east side of 65<sup>th</sup> Street Expressway, from Elder Creek to Lemon Hill, near Will C. Wood Middle School.
- II. Direct staff to work with Council Member Jones' office, Will C. Wood Middle School, Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates, the Sacramento Valley Organizing Committee, and the Smog Squad to collect the appropriate data for the Will C. Wood safety improvements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

**FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY**

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_