

County of Los Alamos

Council Meeting Staff Report

March 20, 2018

Agenda No.:	K.
Indexes (Council Goals):	2018 Council Goal – Quality of Life – Mobility – Maintain and Improve Transportation and Mobility
Presenters:	Philo Shelton
Legislative File:	10593-18

Title

Approval to Submit a Letter of Intent to the New Mexico Department of Transportation in Support of the 20th Street Signalization Project for Funding Assistance through the Municipal Arterial Program (MAP) in the Amount of \$400,000.

.Recommended Action

I move that the County Council approve the County Manager Submitting a Letter of Intent to the New Mexico Department of Transportation in Support of the 20th Street Signalization Project for Funding Assistance through the Municipal Arterial Program (MAP) in the Amount of \$400,000.

County Manager's Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that Council approve the motion as presented.

Body

If MAP funds are awarded, staff proposes to use the funding for a new traffic signal at the intersection of NM 502 and 20th Street, an existing two-way, stop controlled intersection. NM 502, also known as Trinity Drive, is an arterial state highway that serves as the major east/west route into and out of the Los Alamos townsite. It is intersected by 20th Street, a County collector street that serves our downtown business and historic district, Ashley Pond Park, Teen & Youth Activity Centers, public school administrative offices, retail and commercial properties including an adult day care facility, and the Canyon Rim Trail. Additionally, the County recently completed street, utility, and multiuse trail improvements on the southern portion of 20th Street as part of Council approved economic and tourism initiatives that includes upcoming development of adjacent mixed-use parcels. Finally, the intersection with signalized improvements would serve to provide a safe crossing and critical link for extending the urban multiuse trail system north through the downtown area as programmed in the Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Given the current and anticipated land uses served by this intersection, pedestrian and vehicular travel is expected to rise at this location and the safety improvements proposed under this project are of high priority. The County has performed a traffic study that demonstrates the proposed traffic signal will meet warrants and will be included with the letter of intent and MAP application.

Alternatives

Council could choose not to submit a letter of intent and fund the project through other means. **Fiscal and Staff Impact/Planned Item**

MAP funds require a 25% local match of \$100,000 given a total project cost of \$400,000. Staff proposes to utilize available Roadway Capital Improvement Program funds and/or Economic Development funds generated from the sale of County owned of properties along 20th Street to satisfy matching fund requirements.

Attachments

A - Letter of Intent

B - Grant Analysis and Financial Matrix Form