

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 -

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NATIONAL CITY, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER / SANDAG BOARD MEMBER MOLINA TO EXECUTE A LETTER IN PROTEST TO THE PRELIMINARY FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARD OF SANDAG SMART GROWTH INCENTIVE PROGRAM CYCLE 6 FUNDS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS.

WHEREAS, up to \$45 million of *TransNet* funding for Smart Growth Incentive Program (“SGIP”) projects is available to local jurisdictions and the County of San Diego through the SGIP; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2025, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2025-27, authorizing the City Engineer to submit grant applications for SANDAG SGIP Cycle 6 funding for the following projects prior to the April 11, 2025 submittal deadline:

- 1) National City Downtown Specific Plan Update (Planning)
- 2) National City Housing Supportive Infrastructure Assessment (Planning)
- 3) National City Climate Action Plan Implementation and Monitoring Program (CAP)
- 4) National City Boulevard Smart Growth Revitalization (Capital)
- 5) 16th and 18th Street Community Corridors (Capital)
- 6) Civic Center Drive Bicycle Connections (Capital)
- 7) Highland Avenue Mobility Min-Hubs (Capital); and

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2025, the City Engineer received notification from SANDAG staff of the intent to award SGIP funding for various projects throughout the County, with the first four National City projects listed above included on the list of projects to be considered for funding; and

WHEREAS, based on the final project rankings and amount of SGIP funding available for capital projects, all four of National City’s capital projects should receive full funding; however, SANDAG staff is only recommending capital funding for one project, the National City Boulevard Smart Growth Revitalization project, with the other National City projects not recommended for award due to a redistribution of SGIP funds to other agencies even where those agencies’ projects ranked significantly lower than those of National City; and

WHEREAS, City staff recommends that the City Council authorize the Mayor and Councilmember / SANDAG Board Member Molina to execute a letter in protest to the preliminary funding recommendations for award of SANDAG SGIP Cycle 6 funds for capital projects on the basis that the methodology for awarding funds grossly deviates from best practices for a “competitive” grant process, as required by Section 2(C)(3), Smart Growth Incentive Program, of the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan, by awarding funds to lower-ranked projects, and also deviates from prior SGIP awards for the first five SGIP cycles.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NATIONAL CITY, CALIFORNIA, DOES RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and Councilmember / SANDAG Board Member Molina to execute a letter in protest to the preliminary funding recommendations for award of SANDAG Smart Growth Incentive Program (“SGIP”) Cycle 6 funds

for capital projects and requesting that the methodology for awarding funds follow a “competitive” grant process, as required by Section 2(C)(3), Smart Growth Incentive Program, of the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan, and be based on the project rankings.

Section 2: That the City Council hereby directs the City Engineer to submit the executed protest letter to the SANDAG Board of Directors once the item to consider award of SGIP funds is publicly agendized.

Section 3: That the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original Resolutions.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 7th day of October, 2025.

Ron Morrison, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shelley Chapel, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Barry J. Schultz, City Attorney