

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Bob Buster

SUBMITTAL DATE:

SUBJECT: Funding Request for the Van Buren/I-215 Interchange Expansion Project.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board join me in adopting Resolution 2008- 279 requesting funding from the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) for the Van Buren/I-215 Interchange Expansion Project.

BACKGROUND: The Interchange Expansion at Van Buren/I-215 is one of the most important mobility projects in the County since it provides needed capacity for the completion of the Meridian Business Park, which will be the single largest employment center in Riverside County, creating close to 15,000 jobs. The California Transportation Commission has recently indicated that they intend to provide \$10 million in funding for this project from the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) Program. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$97.5 million. Staff from the Transportation Department and the March JPA have been working on identifying all of the funding for this major investment. Although significant progress has been made, further funding assistance is needed.

When the voters approved the extension of Measure "A" (1/2 cents sales tax) in 2002, the program included a set-aside of approximately \$40 million for an "Economic Incentives Program" to attract new commercial and industrial development that will bring jobs to Riverside County. The jobs created by the Meridian Business Park will cut down on the traffic that has to use our freeways to access job centers in L.A. or Orange County and significantly improves our quality of life on many fronts (congestion relief, air quality, etc.).

RCTC has committed \$10 million out of the Economical Development Funds to Railroad Grade Separations funded by TCIF. It would therefore be appropriate to seek a commitment of \$10 million towards the Van Buren/I-215 Project. Securing these funds from RCTC now will help to reduce the funding shortfall on this project and strengthen our availability to receive \$10 million in TCIF State funds.

Bob Buster

Bob Buster
Supervisor, 1st District

initials
dlp

Departmental Concurrence

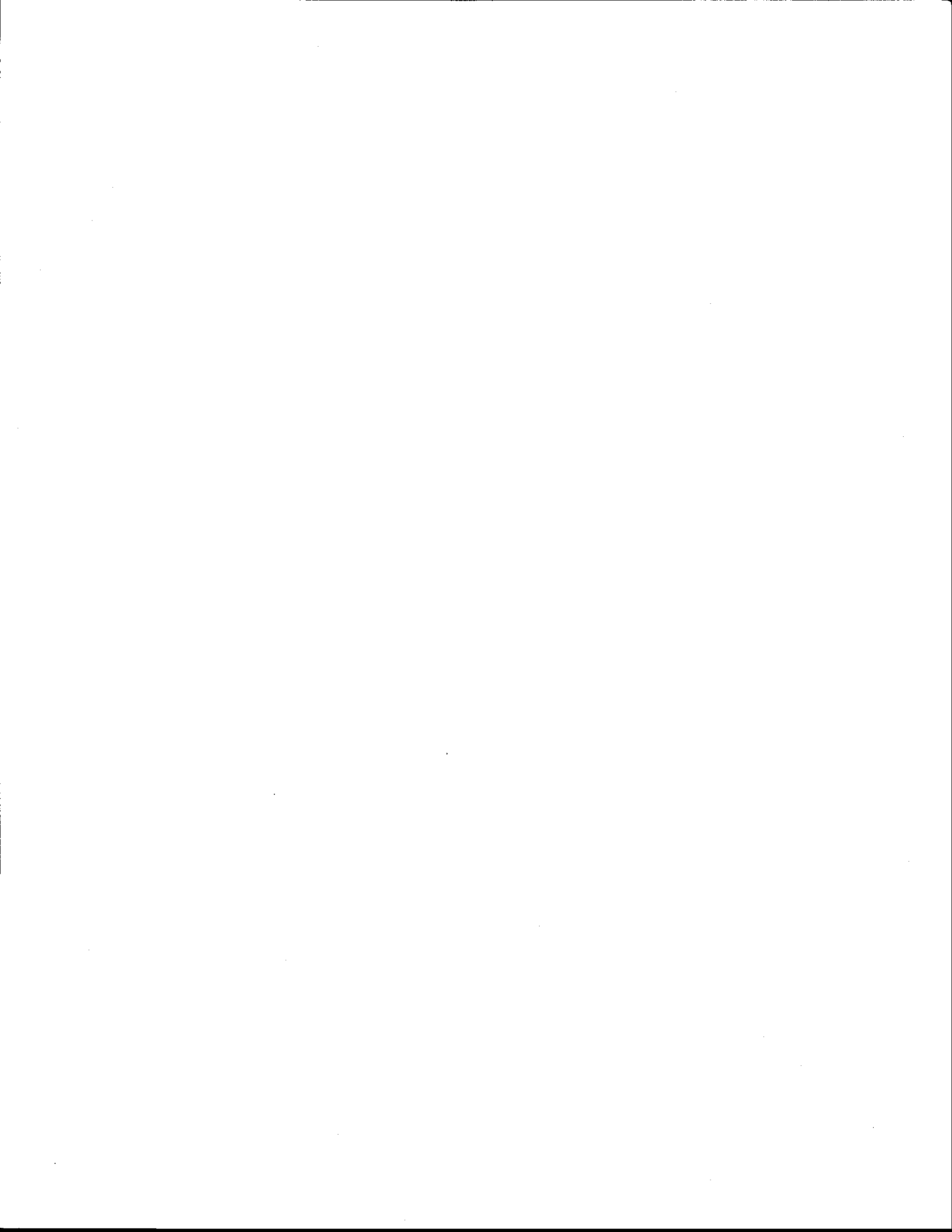
Dep't Recomm.: Consent Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District: 1st

Agenda Number:

3.74



2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2008- 279**

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4 **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF**
5 **RIVERSIDE REQUESTING \$10 MILLION IN MEASURE "A" ECONOMIC**
6 **DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM FUNDS TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE**
7 **VAN BUREN/I-215 INTERCHANGE EXPANSION PROJECT.**

8 **WHEREAS**, on April 10, 2008 the California Transportation Commission (CTC)
9 approved \$10 million in TCIF funding for this interchange project; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the estimated total cost of the project is \$97.5 million, which includes a
11 major expansion and reconfiguration of the interchange, an expanded overcrossing over I-215
12 and the BNSF Railroad, modifications to the freeway mainline to accommodate the Interchange
13 Expansion, and associated road improvements on Van Buren Blvd. and the easterly frontage
14 road; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in order to secure the \$10 million in TCIF funding the County and the
16 March JPA will need to identify all project funding as being committed and available. Other
17 funding has been identified for this project from the March JPA Redevelopment Area; from the
18 Project Developer, LNR; from WRCOG TUMF; and from in-kind right-of-way donations. The
19 County is also seeking additional funding through the RCTC Measure "A" Regional Arterial
20 call for projects; and

21 **WHEREAS**, The Measure "A" Extension approved by the voters on November 5,
22 2002, creates an Economic Development Incentive Program; and set aside an estimated \$40
23 million for this program; and
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1 **WHEREAS**, the Measure “A” ballot acknowledges “the need to attract new
2 commercial and industrial development and jobs to Riverside County to reduce the need for
3 long commutes to Orange and Los Angeles counties is important to the economic vitality and
4 quality of life of Western Riverside County. A great jobs – housing balance is needed
5 immediately.”; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the expansion of the Van Buren/I-215 Interchange is required for the
7 development of the Meridian Business Park, which will create an estimated 15,000 jobs in
8 Riverside County; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Commission has previously approved a set-aside of \$10 million from
10 the Economic Development Incentive Program towards Railroad Grade Separations which are
11 also receiving TCIF funding; therefore, this requests is consistent to maximize matching funds
12 from the State funded TCIF program;

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, FOUND, DETERMINED AND**
14 **ORDERED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County in regular session on June 3. 2008 as
15 follows:

16 The Board of Supervisors hereby requests that the Riverside County Transportation
17 Commission approve an allocation of \$10 million from Measure “A” Economic Development
18 Incentive Program Funds for the Van Buren/I-215 Interchange Expansion Project.
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