


**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM**

Date: November 30, 2023

To: The Honorable City Council  
c/o City Clerk, Room 395  
Attention: Honorable Heather Hutt, Chair, Transportation Committee

From: Laura Rubio-Cornejo, General Manager   
Department of Transportation

Subject: **RECOMMENDATION FOR THE USE OF FUNDS FROM THE VENTURA/CAHUENGA TRUST FUND NO. 523 TO INSTALL NEW LANDSCAPED MEDIANS ON VAN NUYS BOULEVARD IN SHERMAN OAKS (CF #23-0599)**

**SUMMARY**

In response to the City Council motion (CF 23-0599), the Departments of City Planning and Transportation authorize the use of Project Impact Assessment (PIA) fees in the Ventura/Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Transportation Specific Plan Trust Fund No. 523 to install two new landscaped medians on Van Nuys Boulevard in the Sherman Oaks neighborhood.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the City Council:

1. AUTHORIZE the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to enter into a reimbursement agreement with the Sherman Oaks Business Improvement District for the installation of two new landscaped medians on Van Nuys Boulevard from Moorpark Street to Hortense Street; and
2. AUTHORIZE the Controller to establish a new appropriation account in the amount of \$683,473 for the installation of two landscaped medians within the Ventura/Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Transportation Specific Plan Fund No. 523.

**BACKGROUND**

The Ventura Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan (Specific Plan) (Ord. 174,052), adopted in 1991, established a Project Impact Assessment (PIA) Fee for the purpose of funding transportation projects that collectively offset the impacts of new land use development.

The PIA fees in Fund No. 523 are intended to cover the costs of improvements to critical intersections within the Specific Plan area. However, other improvements, including community-wide or corridor-wide enhancements or services are eligible expenses provided that the Director of the Department of City Planning and the General Manager of LADOT agree on the project recommendation.

On May 4, 2023, the Ventura Cahuenga Plan Review Board voted to support the installation of two new landscaped medians on Van Nuys Boulevard between Moorpark Street and Hortense Street to increase pedestrian safety and calm vehicular traffic. As allowed pursuant to Section 12.B of the Specific Plan, the Director of Planning and the General Manager of LADOT agreed to support the use of PIA fees to implement the landscaped medians along Van Nuys Boulevard to meet the policy objectives of the Specific Plan and summarized their findings in a report to Council District 4.

## **DISCUSSION**

The proposed landscaped medians along Van Nuys Boulevard within the Ventura/Cahuenga Specific Plan will help calm vehicular traffic on Van Nuys Boulevard, reduce illegal and unsafe left turns, construct a new pedestrian refuge island and ADA accessible curb ramp at the Van Nuys Boulevard and Milbank Street intersection, and create a new community sign for the neighborhood of Sherman Oaks.

The Sherman Oaks Business Improvement District (BID) will design and construct the new medians. These capital construction costs, estimated at \$683,473, will be funded by Trust Fund No. 523. To reimburse the Sherman Oaks BID, a reimbursement agreement between LADOT and the BID is required. In accordance with State law, the PIA fees will not fund any operations or maintenance expenses. Post construction, the Sherman Oaks BID will maintain the two new landscaped medians.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The proposed expenditure does not impact the General Fund. The estimated cost of constructing the landscaped medians is \$683,473 and will be funded entirely by the Ventura/Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Transportation Specific Plan Fund No. 523.

LC:rg