



Leaders at the Core of Better Communities

2015 Local Government Excellence Awards Program Program Excellence Awards Nomination Form

(All programs nominated must have been fully operational for a minimum of 12 months, prior to January 31, 2015)

Deadline for Nominations Extended to March 30, 2015

Complete this form (sections 1 and 2) and submit with your descriptive narrative.

SECTION 1: Information About the Nominated Program

Program Excellence Award Category (*select only one*):

- Community Health and Safety
- Community Partnership
- Community Sustainability
- Strategic Leadership and Governance

Name of program being nominated: Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Jurisdiction(s) where program originated: City of Menifee, CA

Jurisdiction population(s): 85,000

Please indicate the month and year in which the program you are nominating was fully implemented. (Note: All Program Excellence Award nominations must have been fully implemented for at least 12 months prior to January 31, 2015, to be eligible. The start date [on or before January 31, 2014] should not include the initial planning phase.)

Month: June Year: 2013

Name(s) and title(s) of individual(s) who should receive recognition for this award at the ICMA Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington, September 2015. (Each individual listed MUST be an ICMA member to be recognized.):

Name: Rob Johnson

Title: City Manager Jurisdiction: City of Menifee

Name: Scott Mann

Title: Mayor Jurisdiction: City of Menifee

Name: _____

Title: _____ Jurisdiction: _____

SECTION 2: Information About the Nominator/Primary Contact

Name of contact: Gina Gonzalez

Title: Sr. Management Analyst Jurisdiction: City of Menifee

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City of Menifee- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Established June 2013

The Challenge

There were many reasons the City of Menifee incorporated, but one main reason why residents created a City Incorporation Committee and came together in 2008 was because of the looming and reoccurring planning issues from the County of Riverside that leaked over to current and incoming residents. The County felt that the Menifee region was only a housing hub for the Cities of Temecula and Riverside. The residents felt that their rural region was more than a place to build houses and is they were to receive the same resources as their neighboring cities and residents, because they saw their hometown grow exponentially, they needed to incorporate and better plan for the incoming growth.

Since much of the jurisdiction was under the county and many of the circulation issues were due to the lack of focus, or attention, paid to the area, residents joined forces and to deal with these issues head on. In 2008, the City incorporated and now adopted impeding troubled network connectivity, transportation operational balancing issues, transit accessibility issues and consistently couldn't get ahead of ongoing maintenance of the current transportation system within the city, let alone being able to plan long term for structural improvements.

The City of Menifee is simultaneously troubled with future developments both commercial and residential in the city, as there are currently 83 projects on the books. Since property owners have a vested right to improve, sell or develop their land, the current 83 projects on the books are significantly impacting the city's traffic circulation which in turn impacts the general fund.

Currently, the City of Menifee has between 56,000-80,000 average vehicles per day (ADT) that travel on some of our arterials, which significantly delays or prohibits visitors from visiting our retail outlets which in turn affects our General Fund capacity, and ultimately debilitates the existing traffic circulation system. To put the issue into perspective, the city's population has grown by 30% in six years, and is expected to grow by another additional 41% in five additional years. Of the pending projects on the books, over half were inherited by the County six years ago.

Additionally, the city has a \$400 million dollars leakage to surrounding cities from the city not having shopping needs for residents, or residents would rather not take on the traffic issues and go to neighboring cities to do meet their retail needs. Drastic measures were needed in order to address the current and future needs of residents, travelers, and visitors who the city desperately needs in order to increase sales tax revenue to pay for traffic, public safety and quality of life issues for Menifee residents, especially with the recent loss of Vehicle License Funding (VLF) by Governor Brown in 2011 that equated to over \$4 million dollar to the General Fund capacity. Since then, the City had had challenges with public safety funding and keeping the required standard of 1/1000 and is roughly around .46/1000.

Program Implementation/Cost

City Council, the City Manager and staff made traffic circulation and infrastructure a high priority for the city as a way to get ahead of Menifee's multiplexing issues inherited by the County and the residential development projects coming in, and as a way to increase sales tax revenue. Many cities have Capital Improvement Program identifying capital projects providing a planning schedule and options for financing the plan.

The City of Menifee sought community feedback through the Menifee Municipal Advisory Committee, the School District, and the Community Services Department and took inventory of existing capital assets, evaluated previously approved, unimplemented or incomplete projects, assessed financial capacity, prioritized projects, developed a financing plan that was flexible, and in the Summer of 2013 the City Council passed the city's first Capital Improvement Program (CIP) laying out seven projects to help relieve traffic congestion within the city.

Since 2013, City staff has monitored and managed the approved projects within the CIP and are looking at creating a 10 year CIP with Infrastructure, Facilities and Equipment.

Since this was the city's first CIP plan, it was extremely ambitious and outlays over \$100 million dollars within five years and with significantly improve traffic congestion within the city.

Through prudent real property acquisitions, diligent construction management, and fiscally responsible contract management efforts, the city is improving the quality of life of residents in Menifee which ultimately increases the strong sense of community pride among residents. This program is so ambitious for good reason! In order to effectively change the quality of life for our community, we would need to be innovative, partnership reliant, aggressive.

The projects consists of:

- Newport Road/ I215 Interchange Improvement (estimated to cost \$37 million)
- Scott Road/ I215 Interchange Improvement (estimated to cost \$48 million)
- Newport Road Widening (estimated to cost \$3.5 million)
- Holland Road Overpass (estimated \$20 million)
- Menifee Road "Missing Link" Project (estimated to cost \$4 million)
- Bradley Road and Salt Creek Improvements (estimated \$8-10 million)
- McCall Blvd/I215 Interchange Improvement (estimated to cost \$40 million)

The city's operating budget is \$34 million overall, so something so aggressive was only was only attainable through partnerships with developers (private/public partnership), Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), Riverside County Transportation Department (RCTD), Caltrans and Western Council of Governments (WRCOG).

Through combinations of getting the projects shelf ready for grants, putting some of the projects on the TUMF network for reimbursement, creating CFD's to pay for future impacts, the CIP program became reality for the City and its residents. These partnerships were so integral to getting the program off the ground, but even more so, our partners needed to also invest into our program because without their leverage and streamlining of the projects as necessary and emergent, the aggressive program would never be met in five years' time. An example of this would be how Caltrans, District 8 Director, assisted the city in writing a letter that streamlined one of our the projects and saved the city time and money though the designing phase. Another, example has been the private/public partnership that was created to get the Missing Link complete.

Outcomes/Lessons Learned

The city is currently on schedule with their CIP, and because of the CIP and partnerships, the city has completed two of the seven (Newport Road Widening project, and the Missing Link project) projects and is set to break ground on the third project on April 8th, 2015 with the Newport/I215 Interchange Project. ***What is important to note is that this is the only city historically to work on each of their interchanges (three interchanges, plus an overpass) within the city- all at the same time, either through construction, design or utility relocation).*** The Council's dedication to the residents quality of life and increasing the effectiveness of city services is shown through their commitment and aggressiveness of the CIP.

These projects have improved service delivery drastically, lead to cost savings in the city and affected the community (residents and businesses) positively in the following ways:

- Service Delivery/Residents/Businesses: allowed for easier freeway access and shopping accessibility within the city; reduced claims to the city on accidents; reduced liability; increased safety for pedestrians, allowed for increase in sales tax revenue; decreased sales tax leakage in city; allowed for quicker response times from Police Department and Fire Department on emergencies; allowed for businesses in the area to do better and lead to some expansions; and also allowed for residential home sale increases because of less congestion.

These arterial improvements through the CIP, thus far, has led to some additional increase in sales tax revenue for the city, so that we could hire three new officers for public safety in the city, two additional contractors for Engineering, and two additional city staff employees. Which in turn has led to a safer feeling among residents in Menifee, which also attracts new home buyers in Menifee, and increases service delivery in the city.

Lessons for other cities looking to do similar changes to their circulation plan who have been hit by revenue challenges, increasing development, and resident desires for

increased shopping opportunities, should complete an aggressive CIP changing the infrastructure or built environment, which has considerably benefited the City of Menifee, especially with the dissolution of VLF.