

FEDERAL FUNDING INTERESTS 2024



ADVANCED WATER METERING PROGRAM:

Seek federal funding to support the installation of advanced water metering infrastructure (AMI) with a combination of cellular-enabled technology and data collection infrastructure. The State of California has been impacted by historic drought conditions attributed to climate impacts of warm temperatures and a lack of rainfall. Cities across the State are being mandated with strict conservation policies. The City has been conducting water monitoring of its residents through Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) technology since 2007. Newer technology or Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) is more accurate and efficient in collecting water usage data, as recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The City recently concluded a pilot program to test the efficacy of AMI and desires to replace its AMR system. AMI smart technology can help promote water conservation by providing consumers with near real-time information on water usage, supporting leak detection, identifying potential extreme waste, and reducing vulnerability to drought.

Total Cost-\$6 Million (Requested \$3.5 Million)

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CENTER MICROGRID:

Seek funding to install a battery energy storage system (BESS) and associated microgrid infrastructure to develop the City's Emergency Evacuation Center into a fully functional Community Resilience Center (CRC) that can operate off-grid in the event of emergencies, power outages, and heat waves. Three municipal facilities (Teen Center, Adult Center, and Library), which are located adjacent to each other on a 10-acre parcel, would be connected and supported by the microgrid to form a self-sustaining (micro) electricity grid, generating, storing, and distributing power. On-site power will be generated by new solar rooftop and carport structures (in construction), stored in the BESS, and deployed as needed to the three facilities. The CRC will provide a safe and secure shelter and resource center for residents in a centralized location during a natural disaster (wildfire, earthquakes, etc.), extreme heat (cooling center) or other emergencies. **Total Cost-\$4 Million (Requested \$3 Million).**

DIAL-A-RIDE PARATRANSIT ZEV CONVERSION:

Federal funding will support the purchase of six new electric Dial-A-Ride paratransit ZEV vehicles to replace alternate fuel and gasoline-powered vehicles. The City's Dial-A-Ride paratransit system is used primarily for the most vulnerable residents, specifically senior adults, disabled, and low-income riders. Thousand Oaks Transit (TOT) is in the process of transitioning its aging fleet from alternate fuel and internal combustion engine (ICE), aka gas-powered, to electric.

Total Cost \$2.5 Million (Requested \$2 Million)

AVENIDA DE LOS ARBOLES SAFE STREETS PLANNING:

Seek grant funding to support safe streets plan to implement improvements along Avenida de Los Arboles, a primary arterial between the State Route 23 freeway and Moorpark Road. The project will consist of engaging a consultant to study and provide recommendations to support Improvements along the 1.38-mile corridor.

Total Cost-\$600K (Requested \$500K)

ACCESSIBILITY STUDY ON OPEN SPACE TRAILS:

Seek federal funding to develop a plan to review accessibility on existing Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency (COSCA) trails. COSCA's staff has limited expertise in accessibility planning and would like to retain a consultant to engage the community, open space users, and stakeholders on accessibility improvements. COSCA's goals for an accessibility program are to provide improved access at key locations, work with the accessibility community, develop creative solutions to access barriers and ensure projects allow visitors to engage with a quality outdoor experience.

Total Cost-\$600K (Requested \$500K)

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The City of Thousand Oaks was incorporated in 1964 without a general municipal property tax. Sales tax remains the primary source of revenue. This sales tax, combined with fees, service charges, transient occupancy tax, vehicle license fees, business licenses, and investment earnings, supports government operations and services to the community.

CURRENT STATUS

Thousand Oaks is a low-tax City. Despite the impacts of the Great Recession and the dissolution of redevelopment agencies, the economy has made modest improvements. The City has adapted to the new normal in its maintenance mode, with reductions in personnel and expenditures and little impact on core services to residents.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES

Although the local economy remains steady, with a low unemployment rate and rising median home prices, there are potential impacts on the horizon that will challenge the City's sustainability:

- Shift in sales from brick-and-mortar stores to online outlets negatively impacts local point-of sale transactions.
- State mandates with penalties to develop both affordable housing and transitional housing for the unsheltered.
- Continued risk of wildfires and drought.
- Maintenance costs outpacing Streets and Roads Fund and Lighting and Landscaping Fund.
- Costs to comply with Storm Water and Wastewater Permits.
- Costs to comply with solid waste diversion mandate.
- Costs of pension obligations continue to grow.

FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING IMPACTS

FEDERAL CHANGES IMPACTING CITIES

- Continual reductions to Community Development Block Grants impact services to low-income residents and affordable housing projects.

STATE LEVEL CHANGES IMPACTING CITIES

- Dissolution of local redevelopment agencies shifted property tax increment revenue to the State.
- Suspension of State-mandated funding, elimination of State library funding, and takeaway of motor vehicle license fee revenues.
- Unfunded mandates to produce both affordable housing units and transitional housing for the unsheltered.
- State's current \$22.5 Billion deficit.

THOUSAND OAKS CITY SNAPSHOT



Thousand Oaks rests between Los Angeles and Santa Barbara in southern Ventura County, California. A General Law City with a Council/Manager Government.

- Population- 125,766
- 56 square miles
- Surrounded by 35% designated open space
- Five-member Council selected from the city at large and elected by district.
- Councilmembers serve four-year staggered terms
- Appoints Mayor, City Manager, City Attorney, and Commission members
- Responsible for adopting the budget, enacting legislation, and basic City policy