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Charles Hill/Honey Hill/Miner Roads Poised for Makeover

By Andrea A. Firth

The City of Orinda recently submitted an application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for a \$690,000 pavement rehabilitation project for Charles Hill, Honey Hill, and Miner Roads from El Nido Ranch Road to Gardiner Court. If approved, the project will be funded through the federal economic stimulus bill. Orinda has a long list of high priority road rehabilitation projects, and the Charles Hill Road project was considered the best choice given the stringent criteria and time constraints associated with the federal funding. Qualified projects must have design complete in less than 30 days and be ready to start construction within 90 days.

The Charles Hill project was originally estimated to cost \$866,000, however, the City scaled back the project, which would have extended all the way to Tiger Tail Court, to fall within the Orinda's \$690,000 funding allocation. Under the federal stimulus package terms, jurisdictions that fail to meet the project criteria risk losing their funding allotments, and these monies may be redistributed to cities with projects that are shovel ready. The Orinda City Council strongly urged Staff to have projects ready to submit should further funding become available.

Reach the reporter at: andrea@lamorindaweekly.com

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