



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Capital Projects

**CM/ DCM/ ACM:** Mario Canizares

**DATE:** March 20, 2018

### **SUBJECT**

Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City Council of Denton, Texas authorizing the City Manager to execute an Advance Funding Agreement for a Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program Project (construction of sidewalks for the Ginnings and Lee Elementary School areas) with the Texas Department of Transportation for receiving federal funding of \$762,311 and state funding of \$54,029 with a local match of \$190,577 for a total project cost of \$1,006,917; authorizing the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date.

### **BACKGROUND**

In December 2016, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) opened a Call for Projects under the Transportation Alternatives – Set Aside (TASA) program. This program is funded through the current federal transportation funding bill, FAST Act: Fixing America's Surface Transportation. NCTCOG has \$23.4 million to award to the North Central Texas region. The Call for Projects had two categories – Active Transportation, which is customary bike and pedestrian infrastructure; and Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS), which is infrastructure tied to making walking and biking to schools safer. This is a reimbursement program, with local sponsors being reimbursed 80% (local agency must fund at least 20%).

For SRTS, staff consulted the existing City of Denton Safe Routes to School Plan. A key scoring factor is improving access to schools with a high percentage of students classified as economically disadvantaged (per the Texas Education Agency school report cards); Ginnings Elementary and Lee Elementary are ranked third and fourth, respectively, out of the twenty elementary schools in Denton for number of economically disadvantaged students. Additionally, these schools have sidewalk projects already identified by staff with cost estimates and funding allocated, which will provide for the 20% match. The proposed SRTS projects include sidewalks on Stuart Road, Audra Lane, and Mulkey Lane, in addition to added crosswalks at intersections.

Funding for the 20% match for this project was identified prior to project application submittals which was funded through the 2014 Sidewalk Miscellaneous Fund. A local match of \$190,577 is required for the federal funding of \$762,311 and state funding of \$54,029 (total of \$1,006,917). After execution of the agreement by TxDOT, the City will need to design the project, secure a construction contractor, and construct the project; all under federal requirements. These activities will require approximately 15 months.

### **OPTIONS**

1. Approve the Advance Funding Agreement for TASA Program Project, accepting the \$816,340 of federal and state funding, with a local match of \$190,577 for the sidewalk project (total of 1,006,917), and agreeing to follow state and federal requirements for delivery of the project.
2. Decline to approve the Advance Funding Agreement, rejecting the federal funding for the SRTS project.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Option 1 - Staff recommends the Council authorize the City Manager to enter into the Advance Funding Agreement for TASA Program Project with TxDOT, with the City funding the required local match of \$190,577 from the 2014 Sidewalk Miscellaneous Fund, and authorize staff to proceed with design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the project.

### **ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT**

Approximately fifteen (15) months for environmental assessment, design, right-of-way acquisition and construction, in accordance with federal and state requirements.

### **PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)**

The Mobility Committee was briefed on the status of this project at a meeting in February 2017 and did not have any objections to pursuing the project in the manner described.

### **FISCAL INFORMATION**

Execution of the Advance Funding Agreement would require a local match of \$190,577 from the City of Denton, which is proposed to be funded from the 2014 Sidewalk Miscellaneous Fund.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN RELATIONSHIP**

The City of Denton's Strategic Plan is an action-oriented road map that will help the City achieve its vision. The foundation for the plan is the five long-term Key Focus Areas (KFA): Organizational Excellence; Public Infrastructure; Economic Development; Safe, Livable, and Family-Friendly Community; and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship. While individual items may support multiple KFAs, this specific City Council agenda item contributes most directly to the following KFA and goal:

**Related Key Focus Area:   Public Infrastructure**

**Related Goal:               2.2 Enhance connectivity and seek solutions to improve mobility**

### **EXHIBITS**

1. AIS
2. Location Map
3. Ordinance and Agreement

Respectfully submitted:  
Todd Estes, P.E.  
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