



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

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 multi-use sidepath on Sycamore Street and bike lanes on Welch Street) with the Texas Department of Transportation for receiving federal funding of \$762,508 and state funding of \$36,491 with a local match of \$190,627 for a total project cost of \$989,626; 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 Active Transportation, staff submitted the Sycamore-Welch Bike/Ped Connection, which provides a more direct connection from the Downtown Denton Transit Center to the University of North Texas. It will also link to existing bike infrastructure on Hickory Street, Mulberry Street, and Eagle Drive. Staff is proposing a multi-use sidepath on the north side of Sycamore Street, and a road diet on Welch Street. Additionally, the project will coordinate with traffic signal work planned for the intersection of Carroll Blvd and Sycamore Street.

Funding for the 20% match for this project was identified prior to project application submittals which was funded through the Bike Fund. A local match of \$190,627 is required for the federal funding of \$762,508 and state funding of \$36,491 (total of \$989,626). 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 20 months.

OPTIONS

1. Approve the Advance Funding Agreement for TASA Program Project, accepting the \$798,999 of federal and state funding, with a local match of \$190,627 for the bicycle project (total of \$989,626), 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 bike and pedestrian 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 \$190,627 from the Bike Fund, and authorize staff to proceed with design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the project.

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT

Approximately twenty (20) 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 \$190,627 from the City of Denton, which is proposed to be funded from the Bike Fund (funded at \$200,000 annually).

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:
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