

Meeting Date (?) 05/16/2017

Subject Matter* (?) Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program Resolution - Safe Routes To School Sidewalks Project
This must match rolling agenda entry

Department of Origin* ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT

Submitted By* W. Paul Kaspar

Type of Meeting* BCD Special Regular

Classification* Public Hearing Consent Statutory Regular

Ordinance* None First Read Second Read First & Only Read

Strategic Initiative* Public Safety Service
 Economic Development Infrastructure
 Quality of Life

Agenda Item Description* Consideration of a Resolution to certify funding and support for the statewide 2017 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Nomination Form with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) to receive funding to implement the Safe Routes to School Sidewalks Project.

Summary Statement* The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program provides federal funds administered by TXDOT to local communities to make pedestrian and bicycle improvements. There are four (4) major types of projects solicited with this program:

1. On and off-road pedestrian and bicycle accommodations
2. Infrastructure for non-drivers
3. Access to public transportation
4. Safe Routes to School Infrastructure

There is approximately \$52,000,000 in available funds statewide for this program. Competition for this funding is limited to communities with less than 200,000 in population. The deadline for applying for funding is May 22, 2017.

The local sponsor, the City of Bryan in this case, must be prepared to fund the entire project and be reimbursed by TXDOT for up to 80% of eligible construction costs. The local sponsor is responsible for all other costs to complete the project including the design costs. The minimum local match is 20%, however larger local percentages are encouraged as they factor into the scoring of the project and can make it more attractive for the State to fund as 25% of the project score is based on local funding. Staff recommends the City of Bryan pursues this grant opportunity to leverage the City's limited local dollars and suggests offering 25% local match to provide a strong grant application to TXDOT.

The application requires a resolution from the local sponsor and the attached resolution states the City certifies funding and support for the statewide 2017 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Nomination Form with the Texas Department of Transportation to receive funding to implement the Safe Routes to School Sidewalks Project. The resolution states the City of Bryan will apply for funding through the Texas Department of Transportation to implement the Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project. The City agrees to commit to the project's development, implementation, construction, maintenance, management, and financing. The City further agrees to provide the required local match at 20% of the total project cost (City staff is proposing 25%), including being responsible for all non-federally fundable items and 100 percent of all overruns. The resolution also states the City of Bryan agrees to execute an Advanced Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for this project, if awarded. The costs outlined below show that

TXDOT assigns a 15% administration fee to the total cost of the project to cover their costs associated with the project's review and administration of the grant.

The City of Bryan, in conjunction with the City of College Station, Texas A&M University, TXDOT, and the Bryan/College Station Metropolitan Planning Organization, hosted a local bicycle and pedestrian public hearing on April 19, 2017, at the City of Bryan Municipal Building. Input received at this meeting and any letters supporting the local project submittals will be included with the grant application.

The Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project is one (1) of four (4) projects being submitted for TASA funding. The improvements around the Sul Ross Elementary campus are 6 foot wide sidewalks along Broadmoor from Texas Avenue to Carter Creek Parkway along with associated signage and pavement markings. The improvements around the Johnson Elementary campus are 5 foot wide sidewalks along Oak Ridge Drive and Oak Grove Lane along with associated signage and pavement markings. The improvements around the Kemp Elementary campus are 5 foot wide sidewalks along Saunders Street with associated signage and pavement markings.

The estimated cost for the Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project is as follows:

- Construction Federal Participation (75%) = \$275,504
- Construction Local Participation (25%) = \$91,835
- Construction Total Project Estimated Cost = \$367,339
- Total Local Costs = \$91,835 + \$60,000 (estimated survey and design cost) = \$151,835

The source for the local match could come from the FY22 future bond funds. The grant requires that construction be complete within three (3) years from award of the grant. Additionally, by passing each resolution there is a commitment being made to TXDOT that the City will provide the funding if the project(s) are selected. If all City projects (four) are awarded funding by TXDOT, the City of Bryan's total local funding costs amount is \$1,777,170. The official agreement with TXDOT is the Advanced Funding Agreement, which occurs after TXDOT selects the projects. Staff's understanding is that refusal to enter into an Advanced Funding Agreement for a selected project is viewed negatively by TXDOT and could jeopardize future grant opportunities.

The City of Bryan is proposing four (4) projects to submit and tentatively ranked them in the following order based on staff's evaluation of the ranking criteria from the TXDOT program to maximize scoring potential:

1. Coulter Sidewalks and Bike Lanes
2. Earl Rudder Freeway Shared Use Path
3. Villa Maria Road Shared Use Path and Lighting
4. Safe Routes to School

There are similar Council Action Forms for consideration for each project on this same Council Agenda.

Staff Analysis & Recommendation *

Staff recommends approval of the Resolution to certify funding and support for the statewide 2017 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Nomination Form with the Texas Department of Transportation to receive funding to implement the Safe Routes to School Sidewalks Project.

Options *

(In Suggested Order of Staff Preference)

1. Approve the Resolution
2. Do not approve the Resolution and provide direction to staff.

Funding Source *

FY22 Future Bond Funds

Attachments

4 Safe Routes to School CAF Attachment.pdf 789.49KB

Please detail attachments and note attachments available for viewing in City Secretary's Office:

All attachments in a single PDF.

- A) Project Location Information
- B) Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project Location Map
- C) Construction Cost Estimate
- D) Resolution

Dept. Head Signature

JAYSON E. BAUFNIGHT 01/22/17

Deputy City Manager
Signature

Hugh R. Walker

City Manager Signature



City Attorney Signature

Janis K. Hampton