

Regular Agenda Item 4C

RAISE Grant Submittal Downtown Bryan Revitalization

February 22, 2023

History

On December 15, 2022, the United States Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) released a notice of funding opportunity for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant program, in which \$2.3 billion dollars in discretionary funding would be made available to eligible applicants.

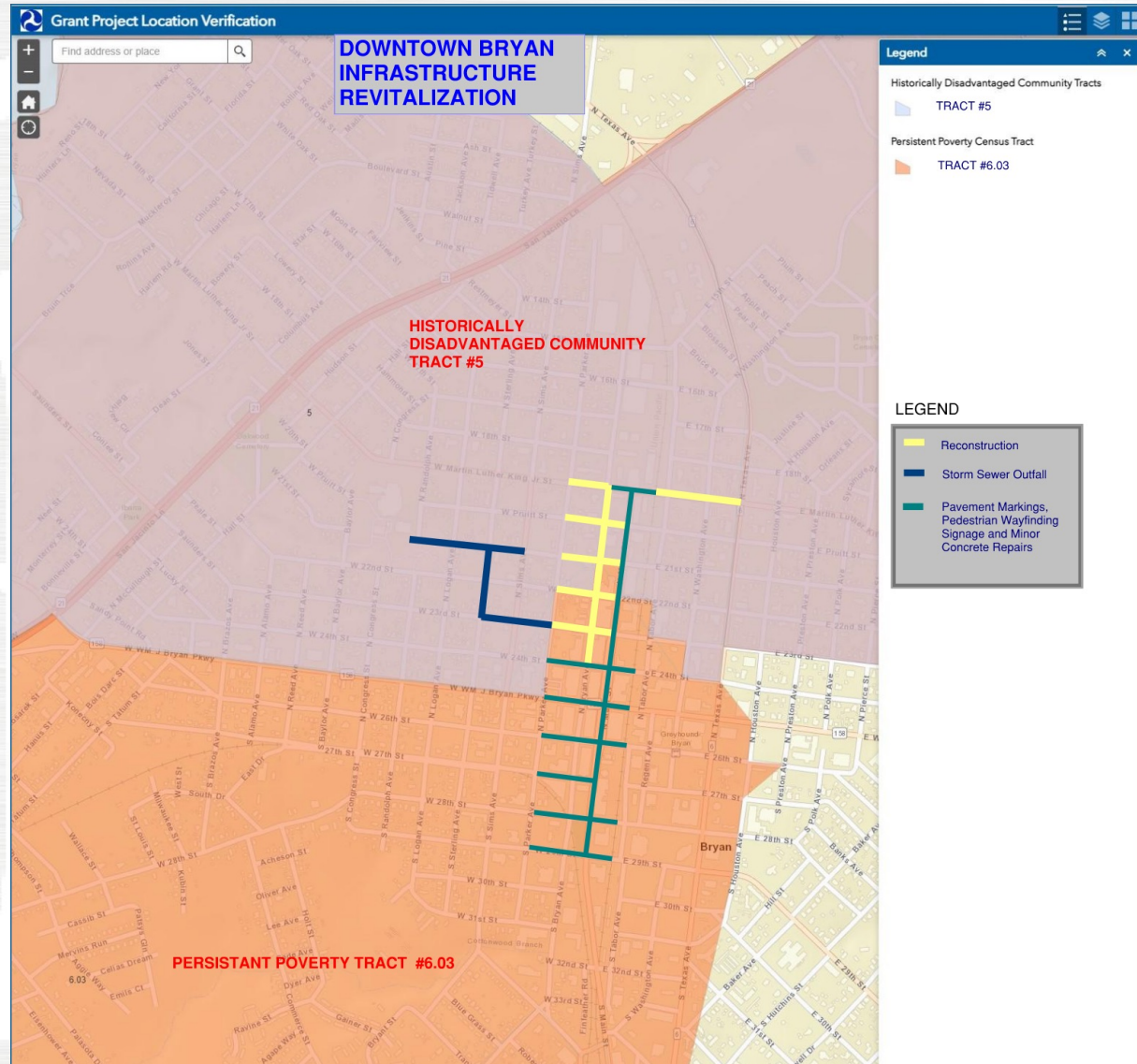
RAISE discretionary grants help project sponsors at the State and local levels, including municipalities, Tribal governments, counties, and others to complete critical freight and passenger transportation infrastructure projects. The eligibility requirements of RAISE allow project sponsors to obtain funding for projects that are harder to support through other U.S. DOT grant programs.

Only Bryan City Council may authorize City staff to submit a RAISE grant application. The grant, if approved, will be in the form of a reimbursement, which requires the City to submit supporting receipts and progress reports. The City will have until the obligation deadline, September 30, 2027, to have a signed and executed grant agreement in place with the U.S. DOT, after receiving the necessary environmental approvals. The expenditure deadline for RAISE grant funding awards is September 30, 2032.

The grant application is due on February 28, 2023.

Scope of Proposal

- Reconstruction of Bryan Avenue from 24th Street to Martin Luther King, Jr. Street and all side streets between Parker Avenue and Main Street.
- Downtown theme infrastructure will be provided, utilities replaced, and overhead utilities will be buried with landscaping.
- These blocks represent the remaining areas that have not been reconstructed with previous Downtown projects and would complete all Downtown projects in the CIP Database.



Funding / Resolutions

Per RAISE grant, the City of Bryan is designated as rural community since the 2010 Census results are being used. Rural classification allows for full federal funding with no local cost share required.

Capital projects located in rural areas are eligible for maximum funding of \$45,000,000.

Four possible resolutions are provided to the Bryan City Council for consideration. The City Council needs to choose one of the resolutions to take action on giving staff direction on whether a local match of funds will be provided for the project.

The only differences in the resolutions are the percentages of local match being:

- 0%
- 10%
- 20%
- 0% with any cost overruns of the project beyond the grant award cap of \$45,000,000 will be funded by the City of Bryan.

At times, grant applications with local funding matches receive favorable scoring by the reviewing agencies; however every written indication with the RAISE Grant is that local match dollars does not have a direct effect on scoring.

Questions?

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