

AGENDA



Thursday, February 28, 2008

Public Works**Item No. 30****RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Subject: Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an Interlocal Agreement with the Federal Highway Administration for the Bicycle Commuting Project and approve the acceptance of an amended version of a Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) grant in the amount of \$371,740 for the Austin Bicycle Commuting Project.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funds appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Capital Budget of the Transportation, Planning and Sustainability Department are now within the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program of the Public Works Department.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Annick Beaudet 974-6505, David Smythe-Macaulay 974-7152, Robin Field 974-7064

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Urban Transportation Commission.

Prior Council Action: In April 1996 and 1998, Council adopted the Austin Bicycle Plan Parts One and Two, respectively. In November 2003, Council authorized acceptance of \$371,740 in federal TEA-21 funds for the Austin Bicycle Commuting Project.

This request will authorize an interlocal agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) and acceptance of an amendment to the Federal TEA-21 grant appropriated in FY 2003-04 Capital Budget of the Transportation, Planning and Sustainability Department, which is now within the Public Works' Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. In May of 2007 the City received approval from the FHA to amend the scope of the original grant.

The original 2003-2004 scope included \$371,740 for installation of shower facilities in both City-owned and privately-owned buildings. The amendment of the scope was to allow installation for City-owned buildings only, as it was determined that the funding was only adequate to install facilities in City-owned buildings, making the private building portion of the scope infeasible. Additionally, the Law Department identified multiple potential conflicts with regard to constructing facilities on private property, including insurance that the intent of the facility built would be maintained. For example, how would the City assure that the shower facility in a private development would remain in use?

The amendment of the scope will provide shower facilities in City-owned buildings only, to assure the facilities remain in use per the intent of the grant.

This project is in the preliminary phase, the building condition report is being created now and the full project plan will be completed by March 7, 2008. The bicycle and pedestrian group anticipates the project to take three to four years, ending by September 2011.

In order of priority, from the top, the following City buildings have been identified:

HHHS Campus, 7201 E Levander Loop

AWU, 625 E 10th St
RBJ Center, 15 Waller St
PARC, 200 S Lamar Blvd
Parking Enforcement, 1111 Rio Grande St