Thursday, September 23, 2010

Transportation RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 83

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing execution of Amendment No. 1 to the Advance Funding Agreement between the City and the Texas Department of Transportation for the installation of approximately 500 uninterruptible power supply systems at various intersections throughout the City of Austin, to be funded with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds; amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Austin Transportation Department Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20090914-002 to appropriate \$821,581 in ARRA funds; and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Austin Transportation Department Capital Budget of Ordinance No. 20090914-003 to appropriate \$821,581 from the Austin Transportation Department Special Revenue Fund for these power supplies at various locations throughout Austin.

Amount and Source of Funding: The total grant amount not to exceed \$1,433,000 will be provided by the Texas Department of Transportation. The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Gary Schatz, 974-7189, Brian Craig, 974-4061, Gilda Powers, 974-7092.

Prior Council Action: June 24, 2010 Approved the Advance Funding Agreement with TxDOT that provided for the project.

This amendment to the Advance Funding agreement will increase Stimulus funding from the originally approved \$611,419 to \$1,433,000 and will allow the City to use the additional American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for this project for the purchase and installation of approximately 500 Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) systems at intersections throughout Austin.

The UPS systems are designed to allow a traffic signal to continue operating in the event of a power failure. Continued operation of traffic signals during power outages prevent increases in emissions, increased fuel consumption, and delay that typically occurs during a power failure. The use of ARRA funding increases the total amount of ARRA funds that the City of Austin will receive as a portion of the regional total.