Thursday, November 4, 2010

Public Works RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 12

Subject: Approve an ordinance to authorize execution of an Advance Funding Agreement between the City of Austin and the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) regarding award of Transportation Enhancement Funds to construct bicycle lanes and associated improvements citywide; accept grant funds in the amount of \$569,509 from TXDOT, amend the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Public Works Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20100913-002 to transfer \$569,509 to the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Public Works Department Capital Budget of Ordinance No. 20100913-003, and amend the 2010-2011 Public Works Department Capital Budget of Ordinance No. 20100913-003 to appropriate \$569,509 for bicycle lanes and associated improvements.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of the Public Works Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Annick Beaudet, 974-6505; Susan Garnett, 974-7064

Prior Council Action: June 11, 2009, Council approved the Bicycle Master Plan.

This Advance Funding agreement will allow the City to use Federal Transportation Enhancement Funds to implement transportation improvements to the City of Austin bicycle network. The Public Works Department will provide a 50% match to the \$569,509 provided by the state for a total project cost of \$1,139,018. The Citywide Bicycle Improvement Project will construct approximately ten linear miles of bicycle lanes.

The Transportation Enhancement Program is a federally funded program, administered by the Texas Department of Transportation. The program provides funding for projects that contribute to the livelihood of communities, promote the quality of the environment, and enhance the aesthetics of our roadways. TXDOT issued a call for projects in October 2009; this project was one of 54 projects selected out of 200 project nominations.