

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 20793 Agenda Number 28.

Meeting Date: 12/13/2012 Department: Public Works

Subject

Approve a resolution supporting funding, developing, implementing, constructing, maintaining, managing, and financing two Transportation Enhancement Projects with the Texas Department of Transportation (the Bicycle Traffic Signal and Bicycle Detection Project and Safe Routes to School Sidewalks).

Amount and Source of Funding

The total grant amount of \$550,000 will be provided by TxDOT. The Bicycle Signal and Detection Grant will be for approximately \$250,000 with required \$50,000 local match provided by the FY 2012-2013 Austin Transportation Department Capital Budget. The Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Grant for \$300,000 with required \$60,000 local match will be provided by the FY 2012-2013 Public Works Department Capital Budget.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	November 8, 2012, Council approved submittal of 2012 Transportation Enhancement Projects, March 5, 2009, Council approved Sidewalk Master Plan; June 11, 2009, Council approved the Bicycle Master Plan; June 14, 2009, Council approved Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan.
For More Information:	Annick Beaudet, 974-7142; Susan Garnett, 974-7064
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	
Additional Backup Information	

City Council approved submission of the 2012 Transportation Enhancement projects on November 8, 2012; however, more specific language is needed regarding the City's commitment to the implementation of these projects for the grantor, TxDOT. Should the project receive funding, a resolution or ordinance will be needed to authorize the acceptance of the funds.

The Bicycle Signals and Detection Grant allows for the innovative use of bicycle signals at intersections that experience high volumes of bicycle traffic. This grant also includes experimentation with Bicycle Signals by the Federal Highway Administration and would add to the national knowledge base.

The Sidewalk Master Plan identifies over \$800 million in sidewalk funding gaps within the City of Austin. Every year the Sidewalk Program seeks to fill those gaps with Bond, Operational, Development, Grant, and Foundation funds. This opportunity to complete two gaps in the sidewalk network that facilitate walking and biking to Guellet and Barton Hills Elementaries also contributes to a healthier, more connected environment, in accordance with the goals of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan.

The City is willing to enter into an agreement with TxDOT if the project receives funding as shown in the nomination budget (including 20% local match) for funds not to exceed \$550,000.