

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 22171 Agenda Number 19.

Meeting Date: 3/7/2013 Department: Public Works

Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing negotiation and execution of an Advance Funding Agreement between the City of Austin and the Texas Department of Transportation for the construction of highway improvements and the construction of a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over Barton Creek at Mopac.

Amount and Source of Funding

TXDOT will fund \$4,900,000 of construction costs. In the event that the construction costs exceed \$4,900,000, the City of Austin will be responsible for any additional construction costs. Costs will be allocated based on 100% State funding until the State funding reaches the maximum obligated amount of \$4,900,000.

Fiscal Note A fiscal note is not required. Purchasing Language: August 7, 2008, Council authorized the negotiation and execution of professional services with HDR ENGINEERING, INC for the design, preliminary engineering and construction phase services for the Mopac Bicycle Bridge project; June 11, 2009, Council approved the Bicycle Master Plan; March 8, 2012, Council authorized negotiation and execution of a contract with **Prior Council Action:** HDR ENGINEERING INC for the design and construction management of a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over Barton Creek; August 02, 2012, Council approved an Advance Funding Agreement for Phase I of this project, a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over Loop 360 at Mopac. Chad Crager, 974-3570; Susan Garnett, 974-7064 For More Information: Boards and **Commission Action:** MBE / WBE: Related Items: Additional Backup Information

The purpose of this Advance Funding Agreement is to establish the terms and conditions of constructing Phase II of the Mopac Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge; a grade separated structure over Barton Creek between the Twin Falls Barton Creek Greenbelt Access and Gaines Ranch Loop, and the conversion of an existing shoulder on Mopac to a southbound auxiliary lane (between the Loop 360 entrance ramp and the Southwest Parkway exit ramp). This project will eventually connect directly to Phase I of the Mopac Bicycle & Pedestrian Bridge project, which is a grade separated structure over Loop 360 between Tuscan Terrace and the Twin Falls Barton Creek Greenbelt Access. The project will not only provide bicycle and pedestrian accommodation for users of all abilities and contribute to the creation of a multi-modal connection from southwest Austin to downtown Austin, but will also provide an additional motor vehicle lane for southbound travel on Mopac. The auxiliary lane will help to relieve congestion during peak periods.

This Advance Funding Agreement provides that if the project costs exceed \$4,900,000 the City will be responsible for costs over that amount, up to \$4,000,000. Funding for this phase of the project was included in the 2012 Transportation Mobility Bond approved by the voters in November 2012. If needed, staff will return to Council for an appropriation request to complete the project.

Project design is managed by the Public Works Department. Project construction will be managed by the Texas Department of Transportation.