Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: June 28, 2018 Item Number: 056

Transportation - Mobility Bond

Approve a resolution authorizing the submittal of two transportation projects as candidates for the US Department of Transportation (US DOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Transportation Discretionary Grant administered by the US DOT and directing the City Manager to identify options for the required local matching funds.

District(s) Affected: District 1, District 7

Fiscal Note	This item has no fiscal impact.				
Prior Council Action	April 26, 2018 -Council approved Resolution No. 20180426-028, which adopted the 2016 Mobility Bond Corridor Construction Program on a 9-0 vote, with Council Member Garza off the dais and with Council Member Troxclair absent.				
	August 18, 2016- Council passed Resolution No. 20160818-074, which included information on the projects to be included in the Mobility Bond on a 7-1 vote with Council Member Houston voting nay, Council Members Garza, Troxclair, and Zimmerman abstaining.				
	August 18, 2016- Council passed Ordinance No. 20160818-023, which ordered a special election for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds for transportation and mobility on a 7-1 vote with Council Member Houston voted nay, Council Members Garza, Troxclair, and Zimmerman abstaining.				
	October 6, 2016 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20161006-056, which amended the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan Map and Attachments for the Colony Park Sustainable Community Initiative Master Plan on a 9-0 vote, with Council Member Zimmerman abstaining and Council Member Troxclair absent.				

	December 11, 2014 - Council approved Resolution No. 20141211-120, which adopted the Colony Park Master Plan and directed the City Manager to evaluate funding options for implementation on consent with a 7-0 vote.				
	December 11, 2014 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20141211-197, which amended the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan by adopting the Colony Park Sustainable Community Initiative Master Plan and Design Guidelines on a 7-0 vote.				
For More Information	Mike Trimble, 512-974-3442; Rebecca Giello, 512-974-3045; Kathryn Potenza-Arnold, 512-974-7987; Olivia Parker, 512-974-7857				

Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize the City of Austin to seek funding for mobility improvements from the US Department of Transportation (DOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant.

City staff are pursuing two applications for the US DOT BUILD grant:

- 1. Burnet Road Improvements (Council District 7).
- 2. The construction of Colony Loop Drive (Council District 1)

There is an estimated \$105 million of available federal funding to be allocated over a five year period to Texas urban areas with no one award to a project exceeding \$25 million. A municipality is limited to submitting a maximum of three projects under this Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Burnet Road

Burnet Road is a joint application between the Corridor Program Office and Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Capital Metro). We evaluated all corridor projects included in the Council-adopted Corridor Construction Program (CCP) and the prioritization model to determine which projects meet the BUILD grant criteria. Among the list of projects that meet the criteria, Burnet Road was identified as a strong candidate because it competitively meets the BUILD criteria, leverages 2016 Mobility Bond dollars, and presents an opportunity to partner with Capital Metro on an application that includes more robust mobility for all modes, including passenger rail.

The City's component is for corridor-wide mobility improvements outlined in the approved CCP from US 183 to MoPac/TX-1 Loop, including traffic signal upgrades, intersection and turn lane modifications for five intersections, up to 2.5 miles of shared-use paths, pavement rehabilitation, intermittent median islands, transit-supportive improvements, and storm water drainage upgrades. Capital Metro's

component is the relocation of the Red Line Kramer Station to the Broadmoor development site and the construction of a transit plaza. Capital Metro's share of the local match comes from Capital Metro funds (\$1 million) and private contributions (approx. \$8 million) and strengthens the application for the grant which seeks to award projects to leverage development. This project will also greatly improve multimodal connections, with the proposed rail station including park and ride access, bus connections and bike/walk connectivity linking to sidewalk and trail infrastructure.

Project	Limits	Owner	Total Dollars	Total Dollars - By Entity		Federal Dollars	Local Dollars
						Requested	
Burnet Road	US 183 to Mopac	Mike Trimble, Corridor Program Office	\$41,540,098	City of Austin	\$24,752,400	\$12,376,200	\$12,376,200 (2016 Bond)
				Capital Metro	\$16,787,698	\$7,733,627	\$1,000,000 (Capital Metro)
							\$8,054,071 (Private Funds)

Colony Loop Drive

Colony Loop Drive is an application by the Economic Development Department for the construction of Colony Loop Drive, a Complete Streets project located in Council District 1 incorporating high quality pedestrian, bicycle, and sustainable infrastructure. This project addresses the existing, disconnected segments of Colony Loop Drive, which connect to Decker Lane to the east and Loyola Lane on the southwest, as well as the completion of the missing section of street between these two segments.

The project serves as a critical connection for the existing adjacent neighborhoods and will provide safe access to schools, transit, and health services. Additionally, Colony Loop Drive will be an essential east-west connector for the Colony Park Sustainable Communities Development, a catalytic redevelopment project for far-east Austin and the Eastern Crescent. The completion of Colony Loop Drive is called for in the Council-adopted Colony Park Sustainable Communities Initiative Master Plan (Resolution No. 20141211-197). The construction of Colony Loop Drive meets the requirements and intent of the BUILD grant and, if awarded, will have significant local impacts on transportation and economic revitalization in the eastern Austin/Travis County area while advancing the implementation of the Colony Park Sustainable Master Plan through the levering of local funds.

Project	Limits	Owner	Total Dollars	Federal Dollars Requested	Local Dollars
Colony Loop Dr	Loyola Lane to Decker Lane	Rebecca Giello, Economic Development Department	\$9,652,000	\$7,721,600	\$1,930,400*

^{*} If awarded, project local match will be Certificates of Obligation or another future-identified funding source.

Next Steps

If Council authorizes this item, final applications will be submitted by July 18, 2018 and the scoring of the projects will ensue immediately after. The FY 18 Appropriations Act mandated BUILD Transportation grant awards by December 18, 2018. The BUILD transportation funds will be obligated by September 30, 2020, and must be expended by September 30, 2025.

These projects are considered a baseline program that must be continued with or without grant funding.