File #: 19-1981, Agenda Item #: 76.  

Posting Language
Approve an ordinance authorizing negotiation and execution of an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the design and construction of pedestrian hybrid beacons; amending the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Austin Transportation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20180911-001) to accept funds from the Texas Department of Transportation in the amount of $1,167,600; and amending the Austin Transportation Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20180911-001) to transfer in and appropriate $1,167,600 for design and construction of this project.

Lead Department
Austin Transportation Department

Fiscal Note
Funding in the amount of $1,167,600 is available from the Texas Department of Transportation. A City funding match of $500,400 is required and available in the FY2018-2019 Austin Transportation Department’s Capital Budget. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:
Resolution No. 20171214-056 authorized the submittal of a list of potential transportation projects for the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) 2019-2022 Call for Projects. Approved on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Troxclair off the dais.

For More Information:
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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:
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Additional Backup Information:
Between 2010 and 2015 there were nearly 1,900 pedestrian crashes in Austin, resulting in 121 fatalities. The majority of serious injury and fatal pedestrian crashes occur on high speed, high volume roadways with long distances between safe crossings. Similarly, as every transit trip begins and ends by foot, a safe and comfortable walking environment is key to a successful transit system. To this end, the Pedestrian Safety & Transit Connections project will construct approximately 10 pedestrian hybrid beacons at strategic locations to provide safer pedestrian access to Capital Metro bus stops, especially in transit-dependent and low-income communities of Austin, which are disproportionately affected by pedestrian crashes.

The Austin Transportation Department submitted a list of 20 candidate locations for PHBs in the CAMPO application, and is currently in the process of studying each location for feasibility and prioritizing locations based on expected benefits for improving pedestrian safety and access to transit. The 10 locations chosen for PHBs are expected to be finalized in fall 2019.
CAMPO has awarded the project federal funding in amount up to $1,167,600, and the City is providing a local match funded by the 2018 Bond in the amount of up to $500,400. This is consistent with the Resolution 20180809-061 which directed the City Manager to use the Transportation Infrastructure Bonds for projects including vision zero and transportation safety infrastructure. Final grant and local match funding amounts are dependent upon actual costs of implementation of this project. Project design and implementation is managed by the Austin Transportation Department.