



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-1805, **Agenda Item #:** 23.

4/23/2020

Posting Language

Approve a resolution authorizing submission of the Redbud Trail Bridge project to the Fiscal Year 2020 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) federal grant program, administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Lead Department

Public Works Department

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

The City of Austin seeks funding for a transportation project from the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development, or "BUILD" Transportation grant program. Funds for the Fiscal Year 2020 BUILD Transportation grant program are to be awarded on a competitive basis for surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. There is \$1 billion of available federal funding for fiscal year for national infrastructure investments; the maximum grant award is \$25 million.

Per the resolution under consideration for this item, Council authorizes the City Manager to submit an application for design and construction funding of Redbud Trail/Emmett Shelton Bridge. The project limits are from Lake Austin Blvd to Stratford Dr with an estimated project cost of \$56 million. The award of any grant funds will require the City to match funding by entering into an Agreement for Award with TxDOT. Final applications are due on May 18th, 2020.

Background Information: Funded by 2012 and 2018 voter-approved bonds, this project features the replacement of the existing bridge at Redbud Trail over Lady Bird Lake. This project has been years in the making and is the result of increasing strains on the bridge due to flooding, population growth, number of vehicles on the road and heightened use. The project is currently in the design phase.

The bridge, built in 1948, was not designed with today's traffic in mind and has insufficient bicycle and pedestrian paths. The bridge is also nearing the end of its operational life. The new bridge will not only be able to handle current traffic requirements, but it will also provide enhanced multi-modal transportation options such as bicycle and pedestrian access.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Mobility.