



## Recommendation for Action

**File #: 22-1857, Agenda Item #: 51.**

**6/9/2022**

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the design, management, construction, and maintenance of transportation system improvements that enhance transit operations and multimodal connectivity along four Project Connect MetroRapid bus routes; and approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Transportation Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20210811-001) to appropriate up to \$500,000 from the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, in support of the completion of transportation system improvements.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Transportation Department

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$500,000 is available from the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority in support of the completion of the transportation system improvements. Funding in the amount of \$1,640,000 is available in the Austin Transportation Department Capital Budget from the 2020 Mobility Bond Bikeways and Pedestrians Funds. Funding for the remaining of the agreement term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets. A fiscal note is attached.

### **Prior Council Action:**

November 4, 2021 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Austin, Capital Metro, and the Austin Transit Partnership. The motion was approved with amendments on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Casar off the dais.

August 7, 2020 - Resolution No. 20200807-003 was approved on an 11-0 vote, relating to guidance on dedicating tax revenue and the terms of an interlocal agreement to be negotiated for the implementation of Project Connect for the November 2020 tax rate election (the contract with the voters).

### **For More Information:**

Anna Martin, Assistant Director, 512-974-7105; Caitlin D'Alton, Capital Improvements Program Manager, 512-974-1150; Gilda Powers, Administrative Manager, 512-974-7092

### **Additional Backup Information:**

Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Capital Metro) is developing four Project Connect MetroRapid bus routes that provide the Austin community and visitors with alternative ways to get around the city (Figures 1 and 2). Construction of MetroRapid bus stops is currently underway for two of the four routes (MetroRapid Expo Center and MetroRapid Pleasant Valley) and both routes will begin operating in summer 2023. The base scope of the MetroRapid bus stop design includes elements required for ADA accessibility, incorporates existing and planned multimodal facilities (as of the 60% design phase), and complies with the City's 2021 update to the Transportation Criteria Manual (TCM).

In addition to the ordinance to appropriate funds for transportation system improvements, Austin Transportation Department (ATD) is seeking authorization to negotiate and execute an interlocal agreement (ILA) with Capital Metro. This ILA will enable Capital Metro to include certain City-requested multimodal

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improvements beyond the base scope of the MetroRapid bus stop design into the MetroRapid project and will provide a mechanism for the City to reimburse Capital Metro for that work. These multimodal improvements include elements that were identified by the City after 60% design and/or preferential improvements beyond the requirement of the TCM. At the same time, this ILA will provide a mechanism by which the City can perform certain design and construction services that incorporate MetroRapid program elements and then invoice Capital Metro for that work. Examples of MetroRapid elements that the City may perform under this ILA includes, but is not limited to: the design and/or construction of MetroRapid stops, in-street bus pads, accessible pedestrian connections, extension or relocation of utilities, roadway striping and markings, intersection and safety improvements, trees and landscaping, and traffic signals.

The initial term of the ILA would extend through September 30, 2023, and the projects to be completed during the initial term include up to \$1,640,000 in improvements to be reimbursed by the City, and up to \$500,000 in improvements to be reimbursed by Capital Metro. Under the ILA, up to three, one-year extension options would allow for an allocation of up to \$1,000,000 per year for the City to reimburse Capital Metro for improvements performed on the City's behalf, and up to \$150,000 per year from Capital Metro to reimburse the City for work performed on Capital Metro's behalf. Funding for each one-year extension option under the ILA is contingent upon available funding in future budgets. Exhibit A illustrates the potential financial contribution of both Capital Metro and the City under the ILA.

#### **Exhibit A**

Table 1 provides an overview of the projects that are currently anticipated for the initial term of the ILA and the related not-to-exceed dollar amount.

Table 2 provides an overview of the potential future financial contributions during each one-year extension options.

#### **Exhibit B**

Figure 1 - Project Connect MetroRapid Expo and Pleasant Valley Routes.

Figure 2 - Project Connect MetroRapid Gold and Burnet Road Roads.

#### **Strategic Outcome(s):**

Mobility