

# CIP BUDGET FISCAL NOTE

**DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**  
**CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S):**

1/30/14  
Austin Transportation

**SUBJECT:** Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement between the City of Austin and The University of Texas to utilize the Sustainable Communities Scenario Software Suite to analyze the Project Connect: Central Corridor high-capacity transit project, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$85,090.

## CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

Project Name:	Urban Rail Program
Project Authorization:	2013-2014 Capital Budget
Funding Source:	Grant
Fund/Dept/Unit:	8950-2507-1325

Current Budget	4,000,000
Unencumbered Balance	2,714,785
This Action	68,072
Estimated Available	<u>2,782,857</u>

Project Name:	Austin Strategic Mobility Plan
Project Authorization:	2013-2014 Capital Budget
Funding Source:	Parking Management Fund
Fund/Dept/Unit:	8400-2507-3000

Current Budget	1,615,000
Unencumbered Balance	448,439
This Action	17,018
Estimated Available	<u>465,457</u>

**ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** In 2010, the City of Austin joined a Central Texas consortium to apply for a Regional Sustainability Planning Grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The awarded funds were used to develop an analytical network of tools and models to help the region better plan and manage sustainable growth, and better measure the effect of its development and infrastructure investments. The GIS-based platform was called the Sustainable Communities Scenario Software Suite. The following year, the Capital Area Texas Sustainability (CATS) Consortium selected a demonstration site to apply the analytic tool. City Staff recommended and Council approved the proposed Urban Rail investment for examination of development potential and sustainability metrics. The results were presented to Council on August 29, 2013 by the Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office who managed the case study.

Council requested that the analytic tool be applied to the Project Connect: Central Corridor Study. The analytic tool provided a source of economic development data that informed the Phase 1 Central Corridor study recommendation. Renamed Envision Tomorrow Plus, the tool will be further tailored to sub-corridor development conditions for Phase 2 to analyze how transportation, land use, economic development, and housing related issues together illustrate the impact of investment decisions. The resulting data will inform the Project Connect team's analysis of the next proposed high-capacity transit alignments within the Central Corridor leading to a Locally Preferred Alternative.

Under the agreement, the UT Center for Sustainable Development will provide the following scope of services, but not limited to, for the two recommended sub-corridors, core and overall project scenario: scenario painting and mapping; run applications and reports; assist at project team and public workshops; meeting attendance; prepare visualization of scenario outcomes in CityEngine (optional); and presentation and interpretation of final scenarios.

