



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 21-2362, **Agenda Item #:** 107.

7/29/2021

### **Posting Language**

Approve a resolution authorizing negotiation and execution of an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for a safety lighting project on Slaughter Lane from approximately South 1st Street to Brandt Road, and four traffic signals on South Congress Avenue at Ramble Lane, South Congress Avenue at Alpine Road, Burleson Road at Metropolis Drive, and Quicksilver Boulevard at Bluff Springs Road, awarded through the federal Highway Safety Improvement Program, with a total City contribution not to exceed \$1,470,000.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Transportation Department

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$1,470,000 from the 2018 Bond, Proposition G, Vision Zero, is available in the Austin Transportation Department Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Improvement Budget. A fiscal note is attached.

### **For More Information:**

Robert Spillar, 512-974-2488; Jim Dale, 512-974-4070; Lewis Leff, 512-974-6421; Gilda Powers, 512-974-7092

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) is a federally funded program, administered by states, to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads through the implementation of infrastructure-related highway safety improvements. Austin Transportation worked with the TxDOT District Offices to identify potential projects based on local data and submitted projects for consideration. There was one safety lighting project awarded within the boundaries of the TxDOT South Travis Area Office, Slaughter Lane from approximately South 1<sup>st</sup> Street to Brandt Road. There were four traffic signals awarded:

1. South Congress Avenue at Ramble Lane, to be let and begin construction in Spring/Summer 2022
2. South Congress Avenue at Alpine Road, to be let and begin construction in Spring 2022
3. Burleson Road at Metropolis Drive (including safety lighting), to be let and begin construction in Fall 2023
4. Quicksilver Boulevard at Bluff Springs Road (including safety lighting), to be let and begin construction in Fall 2023

These projects were awarded with \$2,740,378 of federal funds.

Safety lighting is an important part of a roadway safety program. According to the HSIP documentation, safety lighting can have a crash reduction factor of 49%, one of the highest benefit-to-cost ratios in the suite of available safety improvements. The Slaughter Lane street section was submitted by the Vision Zero team after a crash data analysis revealed a relatively high number of crashes that listed “dark” conditions on the crash

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reports. This portion of Slaughter Lane, a part of the High-Injury Roadway initiative, includes seven of the highest comprehensive cost crash locations in the city's full purpose street network.

The signal locations have been included on an unfunded signal priority list within ATD. This funding will enable implementation of these needed traffic controls to improve safety, as well as mobility.

The construction phase of three off-system (City roadways) signal projects and the safety lighting project will be 100% funded by federal funds through TxDOT. The City will provide a 10% match for construction of the South Congress Avenue and Ramble Lane project. Construction cost overruns will be the City's responsibility. TxDOT will construct all of the projects, while ATD, in coordination with Austin Energy, will handle utilities, design and engineering services, and any needed environmental review for the various projects. Funding for all non-construction aspects of the projects is available from the 2018 Bond - Vision Zero funds.

This project is located within zip codes 78744, 78748

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Mobility; Safety