




MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Richard Mendoza, P.E., Interim Director
Austin Transportation Department 

DATE: December 1, 2022

SUBJECT: TxDOT Transportation Alternatives 2023 Call for Projects: MetroBike Expansion

On December 8, 2022, the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) will request Council authority to apply to the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Transportation Alternatives 2023 Call for Projects. The Austin Transportation Department, supported by Capital Metro, will apply for funding to expand, and enhance the City's docked, bike-share system, *MetroBike*. Under our current MetroBike Interlocal Agreement, the City of Austin pays for bicycle assets and infrastructure and Capital Metro operates and maintains the system.

ATD seeks a total of \$15 million to expand and enhance the MetroBike dock-based bike share system, which will consist of \$12 million in state funds and a \$3 million (20%) local match. System improvements include but are not limited to fully electrifying the fleet and tripling the bikeshare network from 80 stations to 240 stations.

MetroBike has seen significant growth in ridership since introducing e-assist bikes in 2020; e-bikes in Austin now account for five times the trips of non-electric bikes. If awarded, the MetroBike system will improve mobility access and affordability across Austin, especially in underserved areas. The expansion of the system will be integrated into the planning, design, and delivery of Project Connect, I-35 construction, and Cap-and-Stitch Program resulting in increased modal options, healthier choices, and effective first-last mile solutions for transit.

This application is well matched for TxDOT's Transportation Alternatives 2023 Call for Projects selection criteria particularly safety, connectivity & accessibility, geographic equity, and project readiness as it can be deployed in a rapid timeframe while serving as a building block for bicycle and pedestrian connections throughout the city. Assets procured through this grant would support active transportation networks and include electric bikes, bike share kiosks and bike parking. Should the City receive a grant, project delivery is expected to begin in FY 2024.

Should you have any further questions regarding the MetroBike program, please contact Jason JonMichael, Austin Transportation Assistant Director, at 512-974-7028 or Jason.JonMichael@austintexas.gov.

Attachments: [TxDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Local and Federal Funding Programs page](#)

CC: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Gina Fiandaca, Assistant City Manager