



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-1511, Agenda Item #: 36.

4/13/2023

Posting Language

Approve a resolution authorizing negotiation and execution of an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the High Safety Improvement Program lighting projects on Howard Lane from Scofield Road Parkway to Dessau Road, and Slaughter Lane from Riddle Road to Brandt Road for a total estimated cost of \$2,851,951 with the City's share of the costs estimated to be \$323,953 plus any cost overruns.

Lead Department

Austin Transportation Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$323,953 is available from the 2018 Bond, Proposition G, Vision Zero, Austin Transportation Department Capital Improvement Budget.

Prior Council Action:

Resolutions No. 20210729-106 and No. 20210729-107 - Authorizing the negotiation and execution of two Advance Funding Agreements for Howard Lane and Slaughter Lane respectively was approved on a 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

Richard Mendoza, Interim Director, 512-974-2488; Anna Martin, Assistant Director, 512-974-7105; Adam Bailey, Capital Improvement Project Manager, 512-978-1661; Gilda Powers, Administrative Manager, 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 Department (ATD) staff worked with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) District Offices to identify potential Austin projects for this program. Based on local crash data, ATD submitted Howard Lane and Slaughter Lane lighting projects to the TxDOT.

Projects were selected and awarded with \$2,405,062 of federal funds for construction. Aside from the grant funds, TxDOT is separately contributing contract administration costs. Funding for all non-construction aspects of the projects plus cost overruns will be the City's responsibility. ATD is working with TxDOT to secure the necessary state and federal authorizations to bid projects in July 2023. ATD is also coordinating with Austin Energy to implement these safety lighting projects late 2023.

On July 29, 2021, Council approved Resolutions No. 20210729-106 and No. 20210729-107 to negotiate and execute two Advanced Funding Agreements (AFAs) for Howard Lane and Slaughter Lane Lighting projects, respectively. The AFAs were fully executed on October 13, 2021, and October 25, 2021, respectively. Those AFAs stipulated that TxDOT would be the responsible party for construction including bidding, contractor selection, and construction administration. During the design phase, ATD determined, that due to the high-risk nature of the work and the close coordination needed with Austin Energy, that ATD would be better positioned

to manage bidding and construction phases. TxDOT agreed to this change in responsibilities. Previous AFAs will be amended to remove those lighting projects' scopes of work, and through this action, the City will be able to obtain federal funding to complete the projects.

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.

This project is located within zip codes 78728, 78744, 78748, 78753.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Mobility, Safety.