

City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Agenda Item Number: R 203-14

Department Source: Community Development - Planning

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 20, 2014

Re: A resolution authorizing the City Manager to make application for federal Transportation Alternatives (TAP) funding for two potential projects (Case #14-197)

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution

Supporting documentation includes: Maps

Executive Summary

Two projects have been recommended for application for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding by both the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission (BPC) and the Columbia Area Transportation Study Organization (CATSO) Coordinating Committee (following a public hearing).

The projects were also prioritized by both boards in the order presented below:

- 1. Trail Connectivity Project: Connect Cosmo Park/Bear Creek Trail to I-70/Stadium Blvd Diverging Diamond:**
 - Construction of a trail, sidewalk and pedestrian crossing to connect Cosmo Park and Bear Creek Trail to the pedestrian bridge that spans I-70 at the Stadium/I-70 Diverging Diamond and a redesigned (less steep; paved) trail from the Creasy Springs Bear Creek Trailhead into Cosmo Park (in the vicinity of Rhett's Run).
 - This is a top priority in the 2013 Parks Master Plan and in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP ID #442 - FY2017, unfunded)
 - The total project cost for the application is \$625,000 (\$500,000 federal/\$125,000 local).
- 2. Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project: Oakland Gravel Road from Smiley Lane to Blue Ridge Road (west side)**
 - This project would build two sections of five-foot sidewalk on the west side of Oakland Gravel Road to allow for safer walking conditions to Oakland Middle School, Lange Middle School, and Blue Ridge Elementary School
 - The total project cost is \$506,400 (\$405,120 federal/\$101,280 local)
 - This project is a Priority #1 Project in the 2012 Sidewalk Master Plan (Adopted by the City Council on April 1, 2013) and has been in the Sidewalk Master Plan since 2006

At their work session held on October 9, 2014, the City's Planning & Zoning Commission reviewed the two projects proposed for potential application. After their review, the Commission voted to recommend the project applications, but that they be prioritized differently from that of CATSO and the Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission. The P & Z recommended priority as follows: 1)Oakland Gravel

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Road sidewalk, and 2) Cosmo Park/Bear Creek Trail to I-70/Stadium Blvd Diverging Diamond.

Discussion

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is authorized under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) to provide for a variety of alternative transportation projects, including many that were previously eligible activities under separately funded programs. The TAP replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancements, Recreational Trails, Safe Routes to School (SRTS), and Scenic Byways, wrapping them into a single funding source.

On September 3, 2014, the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) began solicitation of project applications TAP funding. Applications will be due November 14, 2014. Projects will be funded up to 80% (with a local match of 20%). MoDOT has announced projects may have a maximum cost of \$500,000 per project for the federal share (minimum \$50,000).

As has been the case for previous rounds of TE and SRTS funding, projects with prior public input/prioritization and available cost estimates are more suited to the limited application timeframe. Projects are typically selected from the Sidewalk Master Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and projects must coordinate with the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Staff also coordinates with the Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments to ensure projects have adequate local matching funds and fit the required timeframe for completion, among other required parameters.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: If grant funds are awarded, the short-term impact is that federal funds will be leveraged with local funds to offset the majority of the costs of these projects. The local match for the Stadium/Cosmo/Bear Creek Trail project is anticipated to use Parks Sales Tax funds for the local match (\$125,000 local, \$500,000 federal) and the Oakland Gravel Road Sidewalk project is anticipated to use Annual Sidewalks funds for the local match (\$101,280 local/\$405,120 federal). **Long-Term Impact:** The long-term impact may include additional maintenance costs associated with additional facilities.

Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Parks, Recreation and Greenways, Transportation

Strategic Plan Impact: Infrastructure

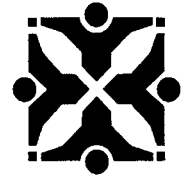
Comprehensive Plan Impact: Infrastructure, Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility, Livable & Sustainable Communities

Suggested Council Action

Approve the resolution authorizing the City Manager to make application for Transportation

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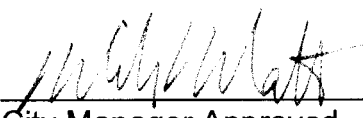
Alternatives Program (TAP) funding for the two proposed projects.

Legislative History

Several opportunities for public input on the TAP funding opportunity have occurred, with additional opportunities available.

- On August 20, 2014, the BPC reviewed the TAP funding opportunity
- On August 28, 2014 the CATSO Coordinating Committee reviewed the TAP funding opportunity
- On September 17, 2014 the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission the reviewed TAP funding opportunity, and following public comment, unanimously voted to recommend the City apply for both projects, and ranked the Stadium/Cosmo/Bear Creek a higher priority than the Oakland Gravel Road Sidewalk project
- On September 25, 2014 the CATSO Coordinating Committee held a special meeting to allow for a public hearing and unanimously voted to recommend the City apply for both projects. The CATSO Coordinating Committee also ranked the Stadium/Cosmo/Bear Creek a higher priority than the Oakland Gravel Road Sidewalk project due to regional considerations.
- On October 9, 2014, the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the TAP funding opportunity at their work session. The Commission ranked the Oakland Gravel Road Sidewalk project a higher priority than the Stadium/Cosmo/Bear Creek trail project.


Department Approved


City Manager Approved

Introduced by _____ Council Bill No. R 203-14

A RESOLUTION

authorizing the City Manager to apply to the Missouri Department of Transportation for federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding for a trail connectivity project and a Safe Routes to School sidewalk project.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Manager is authorized to apply to the Missouri Department of Transportation for federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding for the following projects:

1. Trail connectivity project: Connect Cosmo Park/Bear Creek Trail to I-70/Stadium Boulevard diverging diamond. This project would construct a trail, sidewalk and pedestrian crossing to connect Cosmo Park and Bear Creek Trail to the pedestrian bridge that spans I-70 at the Stadium Boulevard/I-70 diverging diamond and a redesigned trail from the Creasy Springs Bear Creek Trailhead into Cosmo Park (in the vicinity of Rhett's Run). Estimated total project cost of \$625,000.00 (\$500,000.00 federal funding/\$125,000.00 local funding).
2. Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project: Oakland Gravel Road from Smiley Lane to Blue Ridge Road (west side). This project would build two sections of five-foot sidewalk on the west side of Oakland Gravel Road to allow for safer walking conditions to Oakland Middle School, Lange Middle School and Blue Ridge Elementary School. Estimated total project cost of \$506,400.00 (\$405,120.00 federal funding/\$101,280 local funding).

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor



SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Maps

Extension of Bear Creek Trail through Cosmo Park
to I-70/Stadium Blvd. Diverging Diamond



Oakland Gravel Road Sidewalk

