

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION**

Ordinance 1) authorizing execution of a grant agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to accept up to \$1,282,600 in federal Surface Transportation Program funding to support the design of the Eastrail to NE Spring Boulevard Trail Link Project; 2) amending the 2021-2022 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Fund to increase the appropriation by \$1,282,600; and, 3) amending the 2021-2027 CIP Plan to increase the budget for the Eastrail Project (CIP Plan No. G-103) by \$1,282,600.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Acceptance of this federally funded grant through WSDOT from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) would provide sufficient monetary resources to design the Eastrail to NE Spring Boulevard Trail Link Project that provides a non-motorized pedestrian-bicycle path connection between Eastrail and NE Spring Boulevard with vital access to Downtown Bellevue. The project will include a 12-foot wide, hard surfaced facility that is anticipated to include trail head treatments, wayfinding and lighting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6571.

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

This new Trail Link from Bellevue's local roadway network to the Eastrail corridor regional trail will provide vital access between the Eastrail corridor, the BelRed Area and Downtown Bellevue.

Eastrail is a 42-mile north-south regional rail-trail that connects communities from Renton to Snohomish County. The segment in Bellevue currently runs from the Spring Boulevard area north to the Kirkland city limit line where it continues north to the Totem Lake regional growth center. Extensions further north and south are funded for completion in the next few years.

NE Spring Boulevard is a new east-west street with an adjacent pedestrian-bicycle path that extends from NE 12<sup>th</sup> Street over Eastrail, directly connecting Downtown Bellevue to the newly-developing Spring District/BelRed area -- home to Facebook, the new Global Innovation Exchange campus (GIX; a global partnership between the University of Washington and Tsinghua University in China), and many other newly built or planned commercial and residential developments.

The Eastrail to NE Spring Boulevard Trail Link will construct a critical 850 foot-long non-motorized trail linking the north-south "Eastrail" (formerly known as the Eastside Rail Corridor), under development by the King County Parks Department, with the new east-west Spring Boulevard pedestrian-bicycle path. This Trail Link will include a 12-foot wide, hard surfaced facility that is anticipated to include trail head treatments, wayfinding, lighting, and natural storm drainage systems.

The project involves negotiating a 39-foot grade difference between the Eastrail and NE Spring Boulevard elevations. The City has developed a conceptual design for a trail facility that will serve pedestrians and bicyclists and meet ADA accessibility standards.

The City of Bellevue will provide the grant-required minimum 13.5 percent match to the grant award, estimated at \$200,175, based on planning level information. The \$1,282,600 in FHWA Surface Transportation Program (STP) grant funds paired with the \$200,175 City match from the Eastrail Project (CIP Plan No. G-103) is anticipated to cover the cost of final design estimated to total \$1,482,775.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

The acceptance of this grant and authorization of the funding agreement with WSDOT is consistent with the following policies.

Comprehensive Plan, Transportation section:

- TR-2: Strive to reduce congestion and improve mobility.
- TR-23: Coordinate improvements and operations among travel modes and provide connections between modes.
- TR-26: Increase system connectivity for all modes by providing for roadway, pedestrian, and bicycling connections in newly developing and redeveloping areas. Expand arterial capacity in consideration of the multimodal expectations and livability factors for the corridor and neighborhood.
- TR-104: Incorporate pedestrian and bicycle facilities along with other mobility options in planning, developing, and maintaining the transportation system.
- TR-114: Provide for multi-modal transportation use and access when considering public and private projects adjacent to and across Eastrail [the Eastside Rail Corridor].

Bel-Red Subarea Plan:

- S-BR-51: Support the Bel-Red Subarea Land Use Plan with a multi-modal transportation system that provides enhanced, multi-modal travel connections within the Bel-Red Subarea, and to other parts of the City and region.
- S-BR-54: Design and develop arterial improvements, including added vehicular capacity, transit facilities, and non-motorized components, to serve travel demand generated by the Bel-Red Land Use Plan in addition to Citywide and regional travel demand.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Executing the grant agreement will provide, on a reimbursable basis, up to \$1,282,600 in federal funding to support the design of the Eastrail to NE Spring Boulevard Trail Link Project. The total cost to design this project is estimated to total \$1,482,775, the local match funding of \$200,175 will be funded by the Eastrail Project (CIP Plan No. G-103). This action will increase the 2021-22 General CIP Fund appropriation and the G-103 project budget by \$1,282,600.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Ordinance 1) authorizing execution of a grant agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to accept up to \$1,282,600 in federal Surface Transportation Program funding to support the design of the Eastrail to NE Spring Boulevard Trail Link Project; 2) amending the 2021-2022 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Fund to increase the appropriation by \$1,282,600; and, 3) amending the 2021-2027 CIP Plan to increase the budget for the Eastrail Project (CIP Plan No. G-103) by \$1,282,600.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

## **ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

- A. Vicinity Map
- B. CIP Project Description (G-103)  
Proposed Ordinance No. 6571

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

PSRC grant award of FHWA funding  
WSDOT Local Agency Agreement (draft)