

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 \$1,041,000 in federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funding to support the construction of the Main Street Off-Street Multipurpose Pathway (108th Avenue to 112th Avenue) Project (CIP Plan No. CD-30); 2) amending the 2023-2029 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan to increase the budget for the Station Area Planning Implementation (East Main/South Bellevue) Program (CIP Plan No. CD-30) by \$1,041,000; and, 3) amending the 2023-2024 General CIP Fund to increase the appropriation by \$1,041,000.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Acceptance of this federally funded grant from WSDOT would provide sufficient monetary resources for construction of the Main Street Off-Street Multipurpose Pathway (108th Avenue to 112th Avenue) Project. This project will construct a 12-ft-wide concrete multi-use pedestrian and bicycle pathway on the south side of Main Street between 108th Avenue and 112th Avenue, including a 4-foot-wide planter situated as a safety buffer between the path and motor vehicles traveling on Main Street. This project includes traffic calming and safety features with raised crosswalks, updated green pavement markings, and landscaping.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6721

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Bellevue's Capital Investment Program CD-30 was created to connect Sound Transit's East Main and South Bellevue light rail stations with their neighborhoods. Projects in CD-30 target improving access to stations and better integrating stations with the surrounding area, enhancing livability by improving access and connectivity across multiple modes by focusing on access and safety in reaching the stations, pedestrian and bicycle convenience, neighborhood character, and impacts of increased traffic in the station areas. Strategies include the installation of pedestrian walkways, bicycle facilities, signage, pavement markings, traffic calming technologies, improved lighting, enhanced landscaping, art, or other public realm improvements.

Currently the south side of Main Street from 108th to 112th Avenues has a mix of sidewalk sections that vary from 6-to-8 feet wide depending on location with a single-stripe bicycle lane. The existing bicycle

lane is immediately adjacent to vehicle traffic. The sidewalk is inconsistent, sometimes closer to buildings, then veers to hug the curb.

The goal of this project is to build an east-west oriented high comfort pedestrian and bicycle facility, completing a direct linkage between the north-south running 108th Avenue NE Downtown Bikeway (a dedicated, buffered bicycle and pedestrian corridor connecting into and through Bellevue's downtown core) and the East Main Sound Transit light rail station at 112th Avenue NE.

This project fills a missing, high traffic section of the 10-mile "Lake-to-Lake Trail" (an east-west nonmotorized corridor within the City of Bellevue connecting Lake Sammamish to the east and Lake Washington to the west. It continues protection for bicyclists connecting from the Main Street bicycle lanes immediately west of 108th Avenue. It will connect with the Main Street Bridge multimodal pathway over I-405 immediately east of 112th Avenue, currently under construction WSDOT in 2022/23. It fills a gap in the nonmotorized approach to the Eastrail regional trail from the west toward I-405 and integrates access to and from the Downtown core to the West Bellevue and Wilburton neighborhoods. The project is a priority bicycle corridor project in Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan (project number EW-3).

Construction of this project enables users to access healthy, equitable, and climate friendly modes of travel for jobs, recreation, shopping, travel to other regional centers via light rail and regional trails networks. Destinations include Downtown Bellevue, Redmond Overlake, Seattle, and SeaTac airport. This project maximizes pedestrian and bicycle convenience, promoting improved safety and access to transit and nonmotorized corridors/destinations.

In summer 2021 the Bellevue Transportation Department staff applied to the PSRC Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant call requesting construction phase funding for this project to supplement Main Street Off-Street Multipurpose Pathway Project funding available in CIP CD-30. This project was awarded the TAP grant funding in fall 2021. Funding is available to start construction in 2024.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Acceptance of this grant and authorization of the funding agreement with WSDOT is consistent with the following policies in the Transportation, Urban Design and the Arts, and Housing Elements of the Comprehensive Plan:

- TR-21. Ensure that the transportation system infrastructure in Bellevue provides mobility options for all modes, and accommodates the mobility needs of everyone, including underserved populations.
- TR-76. Develop and maintain safe and convenient pedestrian access to transit stops and stations, through shared responsibility with transit providers, that: 1. Provides short, direct routes within a ten-minute walk; 2. Designs the pedestrian environment to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without adaptation; 3. Maximizes safety for pedestrians at street crossings; and 4. Gives priority to pedestrian access and safety.
- TR-131: Seek state and federal funds for transportation capital, maintenance, and operations.

- TR-136 directs that the City, “Support joint projects, including the contribution of City matching funds, with adjoining cities, King County, the transit providers, or the state, where such partnerships help establish or accelerate projects beneficial to the City.”
- UD-12. Enhance and support a safe, active, connected and functional pedestrian environment for all ages and abilities.
- UD-77. Design and coordinate the proximity of bike racks, wheelchair access, pedestrian amenities, non-motorized trails and other modes of transportation with transit facilities.
- Housing: Promote quality, community-friendly single family, multifamily and mixed-use development, through features such as enhanced open space and pedestrian connectivity.

Fiscal Impact

Executing the grant agreement will provide, on a reimbursable basis, up to \$1,041,000 in federal funding to support the construction of the Main Street Off-Street Multipurpose Pathway (108th Avenue to 112th Avenue) Project (CIP Plan No. CD-30, Station Area Planning Implementation). The total cost to implement the project is estimated at \$1,203,000, the remaining \$162,000 reflects the 13.5 percent matching requirement with this grant and will be funded by CD-30. Any additional project costs above the maximum amount of the grant award will be the City’s responsibility.

This action will increase the 2023-2029 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan budget for CD-30 by \$1,041,000 and increase the 2023-2024 General CIP Fund appropriation by \$1,041,000, which is the amount anticipated to be reimbursed by federal funds for the construction of the project in 2024.

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 \$1,041,000 in federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funding to support the construction of the Main Street Off-Street Multipurpose Pathway (108th Avenue to 112th Avenue) Project (CIP Plan No. CD-30); 2) amending the 2023-2029 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan to increase the budget for the Station Area Planning Implementation (East Main/South Bellevue) Program (CIP Plan No. CD-30) by \$1,041,000; and, 3) amending the 2023-2024 General CIP Fund to increase the appropriation by \$1,041,000.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

- A. Vicinity Map
- B. CIP Project Description (CD-30)
Proposed Ordinance No. 6721

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

- WSDOT Local Agency Agreement (draft)
- PSRC TAP Program Award Letter