

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Ordinance (1) amending the 2023-2029 CIP Plan to increase the budget for 120th Avenue NE Stage 4, NE 16th Street to Northup Way (CIP Plan No. PW-R-186) by \$3,820,000 to reflect federal Surface Transportation Program funding awarded by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) to support the right of way (ROW) phase of the project; providing for severability; (2) amending the 2023-2024 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Fund to increase the appropriation by \$3,820,000; and, establishing an effective date.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Acceptance of this federally funded grant through the PSRC from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) would provide sufficient monetary resources to conduct the ROW phase for the 120th Avenue NE (Stage 4) – NE 16th Street to Northup Way Multimodal Corridor Completion Project. This project will evaluate and procure ROW for the widening of 120th Avenue NE from NE 16th Street to Northup Way, adding nonmotorized facilities, as well as improved stormwater and fish passage features.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6735

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Improvements to the 120th Avenue NE corridor were identified as a priority through the City's BelRed Subarea plan adopted by Council in 2009. The intent of the BelRed Plan was to develop a comprehensive vision for the future of BelRed that would transform light industrial uses to office, retail, and urban residential densities consistent with the concept of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). 120th Avenue NE is a critical north-south element for the BelRed Corridor Plan because it provides a direct north-south connection to the western-most TOD node within BelRed, now centered around the Spring District development and the 120th Avenue light rail station. The corridor is intended to improve access, circulation, and mobility options for passenger cars, transit, freight, pedestrians and bicyclists.

This 120th Avenue NE (Stage 4) – NE 16th Street to Northup Way Project (CIP Plan No. PW-R-186) continues to invest in roadway and multimodal facilities in addition to providing direct connections to the Sound Transit East Link alignment connecting the Downtown Bellevue and Redmond Overlake regional growth centers with BelRed's western TOD node. Continued development in Downtown Bellevue and re-development of the BelRed Corridor will not continue if sufficient multi-modal transportation infrastructure is not in place to ensure convenient and efficient access between new businesses and residents and the broader Puget Sound region.

This project will widen 120th Avenue NE between NE 16th Street and Northup Way to include a center left-turn lane that may be channelized, and right-turn pockets as needed. A second through-lane will be added in the northbound and southbound directions between future NE 16th and 17th Streets, and in the southbound direction between future NE 17th and 18th Streets. The project will add new bicycle lanes and sidewalks or a share-use path, as well as provide illumination, traffic signal system, intelligent transportation systems, channelization, signing, irrigation, and landscaping. This project will install stormwater drainage, flow control and water quality facilities, and realign and improve an existing culvert with a new fish and wildlife passable structure.

On March 15, 2021, Council accepted a \$1,455,600 federal Surface Transportation Program grant (Ordinance No. 6570), awarded by the PSRC to advance the design and environmental work on this project. Ordinance No. 6570 previously authorized the execution of a grant agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

Overall funding for PSRC grant programs originates from a portion of Washington State's allocation of federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding passed in the fall of 2021. As part of PSRC's King Countywide Larger Jurisdiction grant program, in the spring of 2022, the City competitively applied for this \$3,820,000 ROW phase grant. While the project was not awarded funding in 2022, as part of the selection process, the project was placed on the prioritized King Countywide Contingency List, should additional funding become available. In early 2023, associated with PSRC's Project Tracking and Delivery practices, additional 2023 funding was identified. Sponsors of projects on the various PSRC Contingency Lists are polled, and if the projects are "ready to go", in priority order they are given opportunity to accept an award of this supplemental funding. The 120th Avenue NE (Stage 4) ROW Phase Project has been deemed ready to go and has been awarded its requested funding via a Supplemental Funding Action approved by the PSRC Executive Board in April.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Acceptance of this grant and supplementing the existing funding agreement with WSDOT is consistent with the following policies in the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan:

- TR-2: To aggressively plan, manage, and expand transportation investments to reduce congestion and expand opportunities in a multimodal and comprehensive manner and improve the quality of the travel experience for all users.
- TR-3. Direct transportation investments and service to support the Urban Centers growth strategy of the Countywide Planning Policies.
- TR-23. Incorporate pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements into roadway projects in accordance with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan.
- TR-25. Increase system connectivity for all modes by providing for vehicular, transit, pedestrian, and bicycling facilities to create a Complete Streets network throughout the city.
- TR-26. Design, implement, and maintain transportation system improvements and deliver transportation services and programs in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- TR-53. Provide sufficient arterial rights-of-way to provide space for street trees and landscaping, and to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle facilities, while considering neighborhood character and context.
- TR-135. Maintain financing capability to meet the city’s adopted mobility targets through a mix of funding sources, as identified in the TFP and the CIP. Seek broadly-based financing through proportional participation from the beneficiaries of the system, including: 1. The citywide community; 2. Existing businesses and property owners; and 3. New development.
- TR-138. Provide and prioritize transportation funding to meet Performance Targets for people walking, biking, riding transit, and travelling in a car.
- TR-142. Secure funding to implement transit service and capital facilities.

Bel-Red Subarea Plan:

- S-BR-51: Support the Bel-Red Subarea Land Use Plan with a multi-modal transportation system consistent with Figure 5-BR.2 (map of system improvements which specifically includes the 120th Avenue NE corridor), 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

Supplementing the existing grant agreement will provide, on a reimbursable basis, up to \$3,820,000 (approximately 86.5 percent) in federal funding to support the ROW phase of the 120th Avenue NE (Stage 4) – NE 16th Street to Northup Way Project (CIP Plan No. PW-R-186). The total cost for the ROW phase for this project is currently estimated to be \$4,420,000. The remaining \$600,000 in match funding at approximately 13.5 percent will be funded by existing local funds within PW-R-186. This action will increase the 2023-2024 General CIP Fund appropriation and the PW-R-186 project budget by the \$3,820,000 grant amount.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Ordinance (1) amending the 2023-2029 CIP Plan to increase the budget for 120th Avenue NE Stage 4, NE 16th Street to Northup Way (CIP Plan No. PW-R-186) by \$3,820,000 to reflect federal Surface Transportation Program funding awarded by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) to support the right of way (ROW) phase of the project; providing for severability; (2) amending the 2023-2024 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Fund to increase the appropriation by \$3,820,000; and, establishing an effective date.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Vicinity Map
- B. CIP Project Description (PW-R-186)
Proposed Ordinance No. 6735

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

PSRC grant award of FHWA funding

WSDOT Local Agency Agreement Supplement 1 (draft)