

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

Ordinance No. 6235 authorizing:

- 1) Execution of a grant agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Washington State Department of Transportation for acceptance of \$354,445 in state Pedestrian and Bicycle Program funding for the 140th Avenue NE Pedestrian Crossings Project;
- 2) Amendment of the 2015-2021 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Fund to increase the appropriation by \$354,445; and,
- 3) Amendment of the 2015-2021 CIP Plan to increase the budget for the Minor Capital – Traffic Operations program (CIP Plan No. PW-M-2).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Executing the grant agreement will provide, on a reimbursable basis, a state Pedestrian and Bicycle Program grant of \$354,445 administered by WSDOT for the implementation of the 140th Avenue NE Pedestrian Crossings project through the Minor Capital – Traffic Operations program (CIP Plan No. PW-M-2).

The action will increase both the PW-M-2 program budget and the 2015-2016 General CIP Fund appropriation by \$354,445. The Pedestrian Crossings project total cost is estimated to be \$431,994, including appropriate contingencies. While there is no specific matching percentage requirement with this grant, sufficient funding exists within in the Minor Capital – Traffic Operations program budget to fund the additional project costs not paid for by the grant.

STAFF CONTACT:

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Eric Miller, Capital Programming Division Manager, 452-6146

Toni Finco, Grants Program Manager, 452-4859

Transportation Department

POLICY CONSIDERATION:

Comprehensive Plan:

- TR-105 directs that the City “Aggressively seek available state and federal funds for transportation capital, operational, maintenance, service, and demand-oriented improvements.”
- By providing new pedestrian crossing facilities along this segment of the 140th Avenue NE corridor, the project supports Policies TR-46, TR-76, TR-77, TR-78, TR-79, and TR-80 within the Transportation Element.

BACKGROUND:

Project Background:

The Minor Capital – Traffic Operations program (CIP Plan No. PW-M-2) funds minor capital transportation improvements throughout the City to address traffic operation issues and concerns. Typical projects include new crosswalk installations, sign upgrades, channelization improvements, guardrail, roadway safety and access management improvements, new bike lanes,

and bicycle route signing. This program also implements pilot projects using new, innovative traffic control devices and evaluates their effectiveness. This program often provides matching funds to grant funded projects to improve pedestrian, bike and ADA facilities.

The 140th Avenue NE Pedestrian Crossings project's primary purpose is to provide designated crossing points along the busy 140th Avenue NE corridor in the segment between NE 8th Street and Bel-Red Road. The project will include two new mid-block crossings, each with a planted median refuge island and equipped with signage and pedestrian-activated rectangular rapid flashing beacons. The first crossing will be located approximately 800 feet north of NE 8th Street, and the second approximately 1000 feet north of the first location, in the proximity of NE 12th Street. This project will enhance safety and convenient access to local destinations for pedestrians and a more predictable environment for vehicles.

This project was identified as a priority by the City's Traffic Management Group. Since 2009 there have been seven pedestrian/vehicle accidents in the project area. Staff has fielded requests over the years for the addition of a mid-block crossing along this stretch of 140th Avenue NE. These requests raised staff awareness of the need while the pattern of accidents confirmed a solution to the issue should be implemented.

Grant Background:

On June 22, 2015, the City was awarded a \$354,445 State Pedestrian and Bicycle Program grant. The purpose of this grant is to improve conditions for biking and walking and encourage "complete streets" projects that safely meet the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, public transportation users and motorists, and also protect and preserve community environment and character. This grant program is intended to reduce the number of pedestrians and bicyclists killed or injured in traffic collisions while simultaneously helping to reach the state's goal of doubling the number of biking and walking trips.

The state typically issues a Call for Projects for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Program every other May; May 2014 was the most recent call, to which the 140th Pedestrian Crossings project was submitted. While there is no specific match requirement with this grant, sufficient funding exists within in the Minor Capital – Traffic Operations program budget to fund the construction of this project, currently estimated to cost a total of \$425,753.

If the City elects not to execute the grant agreement, the City will not be able to access this revenue source to leverage local funding and these important local pedestrian safety enhancements will not be implemented until such time that additional local funds can be identified.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

If approved, this Ordinance becomes effective on July 14, 2015.

OPTIONS:

A. Adopt the Ordinance authorizing:

- 1) Execution of a grant agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Washington State Department of Transportation for acceptance of \$354,445 in state Pedestrian and Bicycle Program funding for the 140th Avenue NE Pedestrian Crossings Project;
- 2) Amendment of the 2015-2021 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Fund to increase the appropriation by \$354,445; and,

3) Amendment of the 2015-2021 CIP Plan to increase the budget for the Minor Capital – Traffic Operations program (CIP Plan No. PW-M-2).

B. Do not adopt the ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

RECOMMENDATION:

Option A.

MOTION:

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6235 authorizing:

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- 2) Amendment of the 2015-2021 General Capital Investment Program (CIP) Fund to increase the appropriation by \$354,445; and,
- 3) Amendment of the 2015-2021 CIP Plan to increase the budget for the Minor Capital – Traffic Operations program (CIP Plan No. PW-M-2).

ATTACHMENTS:

Vicinity Map

CIP Project Description

Proposed Ordinance

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY:

Draft of Local Agency Agreement