

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION**

Resolution authorizing execution of a Local Agency Preliminary Engineering Participating Agreement (GCB 3253) with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for engineering, concept design and planning level cost estimation of the preferred alternative for the I-405 South Downtown Access Study.

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*Transportation Department*

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Transportation Department is contracting with WSDOT who will assist with conceptual design and basic cost estimation for the Bellevue South Downtown Access Study. The purpose of the study is to develop, evaluate, and identify the City's preferred alternative aimed at improving vehicle access to the southern part of the Downtown to and from I-405.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9777

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

The I-405 corridor program Master Plan, approved in 2002, includes a new half-diamond interchange in Bellevue to improve access to/from the south. This new interchange would complement the planned half-diamond interchange to/from the north at NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street. The NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street Extension and northbound braided ramps from I-405 to SR 520, constructed by WSDOT in 2010, were a part of that vision. In 2016, as part of the I-405 Renton to Bellevue Widening and Express Toll Lanes project, Bellevue and WSDOT collaborated to review options for providing access to south downtown, confirming the design of the forward compatible Master Plan Main Street bridge to be constructed as part of that project.

Staff have begun working with stakeholders and developers for properties that could be affected by the new access to south downtown, including properties along 114<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and around the East Main transportation-oriented development study area. By leading this analysis with assistance from WSDOT, Council will select a preferred alternative that will integrate the City's land use and transportation policies and plans, be compatible with the I-405 Master Plan and will work the best for the City, its residents and businesses. It will also put the project in the position to secure funding for implementation of the preferred alternative, including capital improvements.

The Study is underway and the first stakeholder forum was held on June 25. The first public open house is scheduled in August. The technical analysis and community engagement are anticipated to be completed in November. Council selection of a preferred alternative is expected to occur before the end of 2020. Study documentation is scheduled for completion in January 2021.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

Comprehensive Plan policies identify that staff should work actively and cooperatively with regional and state agencies and implement inter-local agreements for cooperative solutions addressing transportation system needs. This action supports this objective while also addressing our engineering expertise and project timing needs.

### **Fiscal Impact**

This is one of two items on Council's Consent calendar tonight for the South Downtown I-405 Access project. The other item is an Ordinance to amend the 2019-2025 CIP to create this new project (CIP Plan No. PW-R-203) with a total project budget of \$300,000.

This action will obligate the City to a \$208,270 contract with WSDOT for engineering, concept design and planning level cost estimation of the preferred alternative for the I-405 South Downtown Access Study. This contract will be fully funded with the adoption of the separate Ordinance on tonight's Consent calendar establishing CIP Plan No. PW-R-203. The remaining budget in the amount of \$91,730 provides for anticipated staff time charges to complete this work.

## **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of a Local Agency Preliminary Engineering Participating Agreement (GCB 3253) with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for engineering, concept design and planning level cost estimation of the preferred alternative for the I-405 South Downtown Access Study.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

## **ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

- A. Vicinity Map
  - B. CIP Project Description (PW-R-203)
- Proposed Resolution No. 9777

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

Local Agency Preliminary Engineering Participating Agreement (GCB 3253)