City of Fayetteville Staff Review Form

2019-0644

Legistar File ID

October 15th 2019

City Council Meeting Date - Agenda Item Only
N/A for Non-Agenda Item

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Chris Brown		9/25/2019	DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (620)	
Submitted By		Submitted Date	Division / Department	
	Actio	n Recommendation:		
Staff requests approval to apply for \$400,000.00 for the design of bicycles Poplar Street to create the Midtown	le and pede			
		Budget Impact:		
Account Number		Fund		
Project Number		Project Title		
Budgeted Item?	No	Current Budget	\$	-
		Funds Obligated	\$	-
	_	Current Balance	\$	-
Does item have a cost?	No	Item Cost	\$	-
Budget Adjustment Attached?	No	Budget Adjustment		
	-	Remaining Budget	\$	-
Purchase Order Number:		Previous Ordinano	V201803 Previous Ordinance or Resolution #	
Change Order Number:		Approval Date:		
Original Contract Number:				

Comments: If the grant is approved, matching funds are estimated to be \$400,000 and funds have been identified in the first phase of the transportation portion of the bond.



CITY COUNCIL MEMO

MEETING OF OCTOBER 15TH, 2019

TO: Mayor and City Council

THRU: Don Marr, Chief of Staff

Garner Stoll, Development Services Director

FROM: Chris Brown, City Engineer

DATE: September 25th, 2019

SUBJECT: 2019-0644 Request to apply for Walton Family Foundation design funding

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests approval to apply for a grant through the Walton Family Foundation in the maximum amount of \$400,000.00 for the design of bicycle and pedestrian improvements along Porter Ave., Deane St., Sycamore St, and Poplar Street to create the Midtown Trail.

BACKGROUND:

The Mobility Plan project prioritization scoring toolbox ranks the Porter Ave., Deane St., Sycamore St. and Poplar St. corridor high due to the connectivity to significant number of residents to commercial districts, Woodland Junior High School and the Razorback Regional Greenway. The corridor is 2.3 miles in length and runs in an east-west direction through a flat portion of the middle of the city from I-49 at Porter to College Avenue at Poplar Street. Upgrading this corridor with comfortable bicycle and pedestrian facilities will provide a convenient east-west route and will be a major step toward the active transportation plan goal of providing a trail connection within ½ mile of every resident in Fayetteville.

In addition to the bicycle and pedestrian improvements, the corridor will feature improvements at the I-49 interchange, intersection improvements to include turn lanes and signalization where necessary, and improvements to transit amenities.

On August 14th, 2019, the Active Transportation Advisory Committee reviewed the corridor and unanimously supported the project moving forward. They also supported shifting the corridor from Sycamore Street to Poplar Street east of the Razorback Greenway to take advantage of flat grades along Poplar Street. On August 27th, 2019, the Transportation Committee reviewed the corridor and supported the shift to Poplar Street as well. They also recommended moving forward with the selection of a design consultant for the project. Olsson has been selected as the design consultant and they are currently refining the scope of work for the contract.

DISCUSSION:

The bicycle & pedestrian improvements proposed along Porter, Deane, Sycamore and Poplar corridor will consist of designated space for pedestrians and bicyclists physically separated from the roadway with the goal of attracting users of all ages and all abilities. The vehicular and transit improvements will increase safety and reduce congestion at key locations. The Walton Family Foundation has expressed interest in the bicycle improvements along the corridor and has invited the City to apply for a 50:50 matching grant for cost of the design.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

Matching funds have been identified in the first phase of the transportation portion of the recently approved bonds. The staff review form budget impact has not been completed because the project accounts have not been assigned yet. If the Walton Family Foundation Grant is approved in the maximum amount of \$400,000 then the City of Fayetteville will be responsible for an estimated of \$400,000 for the design costs. If approved, a separate City Council agenda item will be submitted to recognize the grant revenue, establish the matching funds and project accounts and ask for approval of the design contract with Olsson.

Attachments:

Walton Family Foundation invitation to apply Project map and concept drawings

Wednesday, September 11th, 2019

The Walton Family Foundation would like to extend an invitation to the City of Fayetteville to apply for a 1-year, 1:1 matching grant of up to \$400,000 to design the Deane/Sycamore/Poplar on-street bike/ped corridor, providing for high-quality bicycle and pedestrian improvements guided by the recent NWA Call to Action plan developed for Fayetteville. While the concepts developed for the "Three Trails Bikeway" are in concept only, the key design features should be used to guide the quality and safety of the facility in order to qualify for grant funding. Please note that an invitation to apply does not imply grant approval.

We utilize an on-line grant portal, which can be accessed at http://grantapp.weioffice.com/online/#/. The portal seems to work best with Google Chrome.

This link should take you to the portal's home screen. From here, click the yellow button at the top right corner of the screen, labeled "Register New Account". This will direct you to a new page where you can enter your information and create your personal login. Once you've registered, you'll be sent an email to confirm your registration. From there, you will be able to access the portal and begin completing a new grant application.

Please don't hesitate to call me or Jessica Kowalczyk, Home Region Program Coordinator/Grants Manager (479-464-2662), if you have any questions throughout this process. Another alternative is our 24/7 help line: 1-800-440-7527. The number calls our web support technician at WFF.

Regards, Jeremy

Jeremy Pate

Senior Program Officer Walton Family Foundation

jpate@wffmail.com Phone / 479.802.7359 Mobile / 479.263.0588

www.waltonfamilyfoundation.org









