



## **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Action Item for City Council Meeting August 19, 2025

**DATE:** August 12, 2025

**TO:** Peter Zaroni, City Manager

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### **Advance Funding Agreement**

#### **Leopard Street and Oak Park Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements**

#### **CAPTION:**

Resolution authorizing an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for the Leopard Street and Oak Park Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project for a pedestrian walking and bike trail on Leopard Street from Villa Drive to Up River Road with the City's payment of \$14,797.00 to TXDOT for direct state costs, located in Council District 1, with FY 2025 funding from ARPA interest.

#### **SUMMARY:**

This resolution authorizes the City Manager or designee to execute an AFA with TXDOT for pedestrian and bicycle safety infrastructure improvements at Leopard Street and Oak Park Avenue, with improvements including 5-ft sidewalks, curb ramps, pedestrian islands, sign and pavement markings, and signalization. The total estimated cost of the project is \$848,840.00. Federal participation is \$651,076.00, state participation is \$34,995.00 and City participation is estimated to be \$162,769.00, with funding from ARPA interest. The City is responsible for 100% of cost overruns.

#### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

In 2015, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was signed into law establishing the Surface Transportation Grant set-aside (STBG-SA) funding program (Category 9). The STBG-SA Category 9 program is a federal cost reimbursement program, not a grant. No funding is provided upfront. Category 9 funds are used to reimburse 80% of the costs paid by the applicant, up to the awarded amount. Any cost overruns are the responsibility of the applicant. For projects selected, the applicant is responsible for completing all pre-construction activities (design, environmental

clearance, right-of-way and utility relocation/coordination) with local funds and project letting. Prior to project letting a fully executed Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) with TXDOT and payment of any direct state costs is required. Additionally, a Federal Project Authorization and Agreement (FPAA) is required prior to TxDOT issuing each State Letter of Authority (SLOA). Completion of the FPAA form allows the authorization of federal funds for reimbursement of the approved costs.

In 2021, the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Organization (CCMPO) conducted a call to evaluate and select eligible projects using a performance-based competitive selection process. The CCMPO was allocated \$4.5 million in federal funding, for STBG-SA eligible projects, for federal fiscal years 2022 through 2025. Eligible applicants could apply for smaller-scale transportation projects such pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat maintenance. The City of Corpus Christi (Public Works Department) received approval from City Council in March 2022 to submit five (5) grant applications, one per Council district, to the CCMPO as follows:

1. District 1: Oak Park ES Route to School- Leopard Street and Oak Park Avenue Pedestrian Improvements
2. District 2: Ocean Drive Pedestrian Crossing Improvements- (Oleander Point at Cole Park) -
3. District 3: Mary Carroll HS Safe Route to School – Mary Carroll Ditch Hike and Bike Trail Improvements
4. District 4: Seashore Learning Center Safe Route to School – Encantada Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements
5. District 5: Brooke Road/Master Channel Pedestrian Improvements

The CCMPO selected all five (5) applications. 100% designs have been completed by Freese and Nichols, Inc (FNI) for four projects. Resolutions authorizing the execution of AFAs are only being requested for the completed projects. An AFA for Brooke Road is not requested as pedestrian improvements and utility relocation will be addressed as part of the approved Bond 2024 Street Project. After execution of the AFA, City staff will return to City Council to receive approval to award the four projects to the lowest responsive bid, submitted by a qualified bidder, per the City's bidding process.

The Leopard Street and Oak Park Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements (City Project 23142) involves constructing 5-ft sidewalks along Leopard Street from Villa Drive to Oak Park Avenue and Oak Park Avenue from Up River Road to Leopard Street. Other improvements include curb ramps, pedestrian islands, signs, crosswalks and a signal at the intersection of Oak Park and Leopard Street to improve the ability to walk and bike to school. The Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (OPCC), provided by FNI, for this project is \$905,541.50. A summary of the estimated project costs, as shown in the "Draft" AFA, are provided below:

Project	AFA Contract #	Local Government Participation (20%)	State Participation	Federal Participation (80%)	Total Project Cost Estimate
23142	0074-09-016	\$162,769.00	\$34,995.00	\$651,076.00	\$848,840.00

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

Not authorizing the execution of the Advanced Funding Agreement would make the City ineligible for Category 9 funding, used to reimburse project sponsors for 80% of the awarded amount, which was allocated for fiscal years 2022 through 2025. Project could still be constructed with local funding.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The fiscal impact for FY 2025 is \$14,797.00 for direct state costs to execute the Advance Funding Agreement, with funding available from ARPA interest.

**FUNDING DETAIL:**

Fund: 1076 ARPA Grant Fund  
Org/Activity: 89 Grants & CIP  
Dept 33 Streets Dept  
Account: 352076  
Amount: \$14,797.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the execution of the AFA with TxDOT for the STBG-SA project.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Resolution  
Advanced Funding Agreement - 0074-09-016 Presentation  
Certificate of Funds  
Presentation

