

#### **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of June 9, 2015 Action Item for the City Council Meeting of June 16, 2015

**DATE:** May 26, 2015

**TO**: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager

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# Interlocal Agreement Regional Parkway Planning and Environmental Linkage Study

#### **CAPTION:**

Resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents necessary to approve an Interlocal Agreement with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) regarding the participation in local funding shares required for the planning project known as the Regional Parkway Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study ("PROJECT").

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Agenda Item is to obtain authority to execute an Interlocal Agreement with the MPO for the Regional Parkway Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Feasibility Study project.

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

This agreement is a continuation of a joint project, between the City, the MPO and Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on regional parkway planning with the cost being shared between the City and MPO 20% and 80% respectively. The MPO will lead this project and enter into a Non-construction Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), which administers the Category 7 Program for the funding. The MPO will also execute and manage a contract agreement with the Consultant to complete the study.

An initial Regional Parkway Mobility Corridor Feasibility Study was completed in January 2013, which determined the Regional Parkway route was needed and attainable if constructed in phases (segments) and implemented in a manner consistent with development and need. The initial Study evaluated whether a new roadway is needed to alleviate congestion and provide an alternate route in portions of Nueces and San Patricio Counties. The evaluation also determined the feasibility of a new elevated causeway and bridge to North Padre Island and a new or enhanced Nueces River bridge connecting San Patricio County and Nueces County. The study considered ten (10) potential corridors and determined that two corridors are feasible and viable based on the following four major categories:

- Traffic Mobility
- Social and Environmental Impacts
- Engineering
- Likely Public Support

The two corridors both include a new connection to North Padre Island and go west of Robstown. One, Alternative, Corridor 6, would connect back to I-37 north of Edroy, and the other, Alternative Corridor 2, connects back to I-37 south of Edroy (see attached map). This Project evaluates two segments which run from State Highway 286 (Crosstown) to Park Road 22. This project also serves as the interim step to a full National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review that is required for projects seeking state or federal funding.

The total cost for the project is \$863,068 with the City's share of \$233,028 which includes the 20% match of \$172,614 plus TxDOT administrative fees of \$43,153 and PlanSource overhead fees for \$17,261. The funds for the City's match is the Bond 2014 TxDOT Participation. The MPO's cost share is \$690,454 and was approved by the MPO Transportation Policy Committee under Category 7 – Metropolitan Mobility Program funds on April 4, 2014.

HDR Engineering, Inc. was selected as the consultant in December 2014 through PlanSource, a competitive cooperative procurement program of the Community and Environmental Planning Department of Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC). This contract vehicle allows local governments access to pregualified planning firms.

The City agrees to pay the Consultant within 30 days of receiving an invoice from the MPO. The MPO will invoice City monthly with the exception of the initial lump sum fees for TxDOT administration.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. Authorize execution of the Interlocal Agreement.
- 2. Do not authorize execution of the Interlocal Agreement. (Not Recommended)

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

Not applicable

#### **CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:**

Complies with statutes regarding Texas Department of Transportation Participation.

## **EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:**

Not applicable

## **DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:**

Capital Programs

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Fiscal Year 2014-2015	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Total Budget	\$0.00	\$2,500,000.00		\$2,500,000.00
Encumbered / Expended Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
This item	\$0.00	\$233,028.00	\$0.00	\$233,028.00
Future Anticipated Expenditures This Project	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE	\$0.00	\$2,266,972.00	\$0.00	\$2,266,972.00

Fund(s): Future TxDOT Participation Bond 2014

## **Comments:**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

City staff recommends the approval of the Interlocal Agreement with Metropolitan Planning Organization to fund \$233,028 for the Regional Parkway Planning and Environmental Linkage Study project.

## **LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Resolution Project Budget Location Map Presentation