



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting April 15, 2025
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting April 29, 2025

DATE: April 15, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Jeffrey H. Edmonds, P.E., Director of Engineering Services
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Advance Funding Agreement
Holly Road Train Trestle to Tourism Trail

CAPTION:

Ordinance approving and authorizing an Advance Funding Agreement between the City of Corpus Christi and the Texas Department of Transportation for the Holly Road Train Trestle to Tourism Trail Project in an amount of \$11,797,839 from the Texas Department of Transportation, Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program under the 2023 Call for Projects, with the design and construction managed by the City and appropriating \$1,300,000 of interest income from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund and amending the FY 2025 Capital Budget and FY 2025 Operating Budget

SUMMARY:

This ordinance will authorize the following agreements associated with the Trestle to Trail Holly Road Project.

- A. Transferring interest income in the amount of \$1,300,000 from the ARPA fund to the CIP Project Trestle to Trail Holly Road for design costs.
- B. An ordinance authorizing the Parks & Recreation Department to accept funding from the Texas Department of Transportation's TASA Program under the 2023 Call for Projects. The proposed grant will cover construction costs related to the CIP Project Trestle to Trail Holly Road.

- C. An ordinance authorizes the execution of an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for the Holly Road Train Trestle to Tourism Trail. This project involves constructing a 15-foot-wide shared-use path from the existing path on the west side of Oso Bay along Division Road to Flour Bluff Drive, and along Flour Bluff Drive from Division Road to Don Patricio Road. It will include building a pedestrian bridge across Oso Bay using existing pilings from the abandoned train trestle bridge.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

TASA issued a “Call for Projects” in the Texas Register on December 2, 2022. The City of Corpus Christi Holly Road Train Trestle to Tourism Trail Project was prepared and submitted by City before the deadline of June 5, 2023. The project scope involves constructing a 15-foot-wide shared-use path from the existing path on the west side of Oso Bay along Division Road to Flour Bluff Drive, and along Flour Bluff Drive from Division Road to Don Patricio Road. It will include building a pedestrian bridge across Oso Bay using existing pilings from the abandoned train trestle bridge. Projects were evaluated for eligibility based on the technical standards, and specific selection criteria as set forth in the 2023 Transportation Alternatives Program Guide. The commission selected Transportation Alternatives projects for funding based on recommendations from the director of the division responsible for administering the TASA Program, the potential benefit of the projects to the state, and their value as enhancements to the surface transportation system. The Texas Transportation Commission awarded federal funds and transportation development credits to support a variety of bicycle and pedestrian planning and infrastructure projects throughout the state.

On October 26, 2023, The City of Corpus Christi Holly Road Train Trestle to Tourism Trail Project was awarded \$13,577,158 of which \$11,797,839 is for construction and \$1,779,319 is for State direct and indirect costs. Generally, the local match for TASA projects must be 20% or greater, approximately \$2,606,891. The local match for this project has been met with Transportation Development Credits, which brings the local match to \$0. The City is responsible for all other soft costs such as design and permitting.

The design and permitting for the project will be funded through the ARPA interest income in the amount of \$1,300,000. The ARPA interest income will be transferred to the project. The grant requires the construction project be advertised and constructed by City per the project scope listed in the AFA. The city is responsible for any overage.

Both the Flour Bluff Area Development Plan and the Southside Area Development Plan, respectively, identified the Oso Bay Trestle Bridge Hike and Bike trail as an important public investment project with strong community support. The voters further expressed support for this project when they approved the 2022 Bond Package that included \$500,000 for the preliminary design and investigation to convert the damaged railroad crossing to an ADA-accessible hike and bike trail.

The future trail system will be located throughout Flour Bluff connecting various natural areas on the Encinal Peninsula. These future improvements could serve as vital recreation, active transportation, and nature education resources for area residents and visitors to Corpus Christi.

This item will authorize the execution of the AFA with TXDOT in an amount of \$13,577,158 for the construction of a 15-foot-wide shared use path. A professional service contract for design services will be presented to Council for consideration in May 2025.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to approve the grant funding, reallocate the ARPA interest income, or execute the Advanced Funding Agreement and use other city funds to complete the project

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact for FY 2025 is in the amount of \$13,097,839 for costs such as construction, design, right of way, and permitting with funding available from the Parks & Recreation Grant Fund (1067).

Funding Detail:

Fund:	Parks & RecGrnts (Fund 1067)
Department:	Parks & Rec (27)
Org:	Grants and Capital Projects (89)
Account:	Construction (550910)
Activity:	23169-1067-S
Amount	\$11,797,839
Fund:	Parks & RecGrnts (Fund 1067)
Department:	Parks & Rec (27)
Org:	Grants and Capital Projects (89)
Account:	Design (Outside Consultants) (550950)
Activity:	23169-1067-L
Amount	\$1,300,000.00
Total:	\$13,097,839

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends execution of the AFA with TxDOT for Holly Road Train Trestle to Tourism Trail for the construction of a 15-foot-wide shared use path.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- AFA TASA Signature Page
- Location Map
- CIP Page
- Power Point Presentation
- Ordinance