



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting April 12, 2022

**DATE:** April 12, 2022

**TO:** Peter Zaroni, City Manager

**FROM:** Maria G. Molina, P.E., Consultant Interim-Director of Public Works  
[MariaMolina@cctexas.com](mailto:MariaMolina@cctexas.com)  
(361) 826-1677

Jeff Edmonds, P.E., Director of Engineering Services  
[JeffE@cctexas.com](mailto:JeffE@cctexas.com)  
(361) 826-3851

**Authorization to submit a grant application for Yorktown Boulevard, from Rodd Field Road to Oso Creek Bridge, to the U.S. Department of Transportation**

### **CAPTION**

Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for funding under the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program in the amount of \$23,900,000 with a City cash match of \$6,725,000.

### **SUMMARY:**

This resolution authorizes the City of Corpus Christi to submit a grant application for funding under the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) for funding from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program in the amount of \$23,900,000, with a City cash match of \$6,725,000. The grant will provide funding towards the construction of Yorktown Boulevard, from Rodd Field Road to Oso Creek Bridge. The project will increase capacity and resiliency of the arterial while improving safety conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling along the corridor.

### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

The Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity, or RAISE Discretionary Grant program, allows the USDOT to invest in road, rail, transit, and port projects that to achieve a defined set of national objectives. These grants were previously known as the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) and Transportation Investment Generating

## Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants.

The eligibility requirements of RAISE allow project sponsors at the State and local levels to obtain funding for multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects that are more difficult to support through traditional USDOT programs. RAISE can fund port and freight rail projects, for example, which play a critical role in the nation's ability to move freight but have limited sources of federal funds. RAISE can provide capital funding directly to any public entity, including municipalities, counties, port authorities, tribal governments, MPOs, or others in contrast to traditional Federal programs which provide funding to very specific groups of applicants (mostly state DOTs and transit agencies).

Bond 2020, Proposition A, funded a portion of the design only of Yorktown Boulevard from Rodd Field to Oso Bridge (approximately 1.61 miles) at \$3.7 million and \$100,000 for contingency (\$1.9 million Bond 2020 and \$1.9 million utility revenue bonds). The project, located on the Southside of Corpus Christi, will increase capacity and resiliency of the asset while improving safety conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling along the corridor. Yorktown Boulevard is south of Texas State Highway (SH) 358 and runs parallel to SH 358 between the Flour Bluff and Southside areas, which are both experiencing population growth and expanding development.

The project will reconstruct Yorktown Boulevard from Rodd Field Road in the community of Southside to the Oso Creek Bridge east toward the historically disadvantaged area of Flour Bluff, expanding the corridor from two (2) lanes to four (4) lanes with a landscaped median, separated bike facilities, and ADA sidewalk on both sides of the road. Drainage improvements are also a critical element of the project. In addition, to further improve this corridor, TxDOT will be participating in the replacement and improvements to the Oso Creek Bridge, known locally as the Mud Bridge.

In extreme weather events, constrained evacuation capacity is leaving residents within the Southside and Flour Bluff areas more susceptible to storm impacts. For emergency evacuations, the City includes two designated emergency evacuation routes to usher traffic movement inland from Flour Bluff including Yorktown Boulevard and SH 358. SH 358 is a limited access freeway that crosses Oso Bay and the only connection to Padre Island. Yorktown Boulevard is the only alternative evacuation route to SH 358 because it also crosses the Oso Bay. The project is the next step in the City's effort to improve community resilience by improving east-west service capacity for the area's only other evacuation alternative.

The project will provide increased connectivity and access to the new Del Mar College Oso Creek Campus which will house the new Corpus Christi Police Department Training Academy. The project will also provide better access and safer routes to school for students attending Kolda Elementary and the new Southeast Elementary campus that will open in the Fall of 2023. This project benefits many groups throughout Corpus Christi. This support is reflected in the attached letters of support.

The cash portion of the project in an amount of \$6,725,000 will be funded with the Bond 2020 and the proposed Bond 2022. The cash portion of funds will be utilized design of the project, which is \$3.8 million, and the remaining funds will be utilized to assist with construction costs, environmental assessment if needed, and City reimbursements. The construction of the project will be funded with Grant funds if the Grant is approved or the backup plan is to fund the project with Bond 2022 funds if approved by the voters on Nov 08, 2022. The preliminary estimated construction cost of the project is \$30 million for asphalt pavement and includes underground utility infrastructure.

### **PROJECT TIMELINE:**

The RAISE Grant Program selection will be announced no later than August 12, 2022. The

project currently is in design with Bond 2020 funds. The proposed Bond 2022 will be presented to voters for consideration on November 08, 2022. If Bond 2022 is approved by voters, the project will be advertised for bids in early 2023.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative is not to submit the grant application and find other funding sources to fund the construction of Yorktown Boulevard.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact for the application process. However, if the grant is awarded then grant program period will be FY 2022 thru FY 2026. The City's match portion will be funded through the Bond 2020 program and the Bond 2022 program. The FY 2022 CIP shows there is \$3.8 million available. The remaining funding will be budgeted with the Bond 2022 and the FY 2023 CIP will be amended with the Bond 2022 funding when approved. Attached is the FY 2022 CIP page.

**Funding Detail:**

Fund: N/A  
Organization/Activity: N/A  
Mission Element: N/A  
Project # (CIP Only): N/A  
Account: N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends authorizing submittal of the grant application, as presented.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Resolution  
Letters of Support