



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Future Item for the City Council Meeting of April 9, 2013
Action Item for the City Council Meeting of April 23, 2013

DATE: March 28, 2013
TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager
FROM: Tom Tagliabue, Director, Intergovernmental Relations
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<p>RESOLUTION REQUESTING STATE LEGISLATION ALLOWING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THE OPTION TO GENERATE REVENUE FOR STREET REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE WITH ADDITIONAL FINANCING TOOLS.</p>

CAPTION:

Resolution encouraging the 83rd Texas Legislature to enact legislation authorizing municipalities to generate revenue to fund street repair and maintenance, through local option vehicle registration fees, gasoline taxes or other mechanism.

PURPOSE:

To encourage support by the Coastal Bend legislative delegation of legislation that would authorize municipalities to generate revenue to fund street repair and maintenance through local option vehicle registration fees, gasoline taxes or other mechanism.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Council adopted a legislative policy priority on October 16, 2012, that recommended giving local governments access to a variety of financing tools, and further recommended removing any restrictions that limit flexibility to use economic incentives to address community-specific transportation infrastructure needs through all project phases. No localized legislation was drafted to generate additional revenue for transportation projects, such as city street repairs and maintenance. Since pre-filing of legislation began on November 12, 2012, the IGR Director has reviewed all bills related to transportation funding and continues to track them throughout the session. Bills are identified which may deal with the subject of funding transportation infrastructure and determine whether they are specific to funding for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) or whether they are specific to local funding. If any bills are germane to local transportation funding, but which need an amendment to achieve the City's goal, the IGR Director and/or the City's lobby team communicate with the author of the bill. The majority of transportation funding bills filed this session address funding for the TxDOT and only a few address funding needs at the county level – not municipal.

As the Mayor and City Council work with City staff on development of a street user fee system, there is still significant Council interest in exploring a local funding option through legislative action. Council requested City staff to prepare a resolution to send to members of the Coastal Bend legislative delegation recommending that they take action during the 83rd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature to enact legislation that would authorize municipalities to generate revenue to fund street repair, rehabilitation, and maintenance, through local option vehicle

registration fees, gasoline taxes or other mechanism. Given the lack of local option funding legislation, the City Council wanted to remind members of the Coastal Bend legislative delegation of the need for additional transportation project financing tools.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council could: (1) Adopt the resolution, (2) Vote against the resolution, or (3) take no action. It is too late in the Regular Session to consider filing a local-option bill empowering only the City of Corpus Christi due to public notice requirements and the limited number of days remaining in the 140 day session.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

None

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

N/A

EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:

This is a non-emergency item.

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Assistant City Manager for Public Works; Assistant City Manager for Business Support Services; City Attorney

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

☐ Operating ☐ Revenue ☐ Capital ☒ Not applicable

Fiscal Year: 2012-2013	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item				
BALANCE				

Fund(s)

Comments: None

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends adoption of the resolution.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Resolution