



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 11, 2025

TITLE:

Consider and act on Resolution No. R-2025-37, supporting the submission of preliminary applications to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), for the Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program 2025 Call for Projects.

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Elizabeth Wick, Project Manager, Engineering and Capital Improvement Project Management

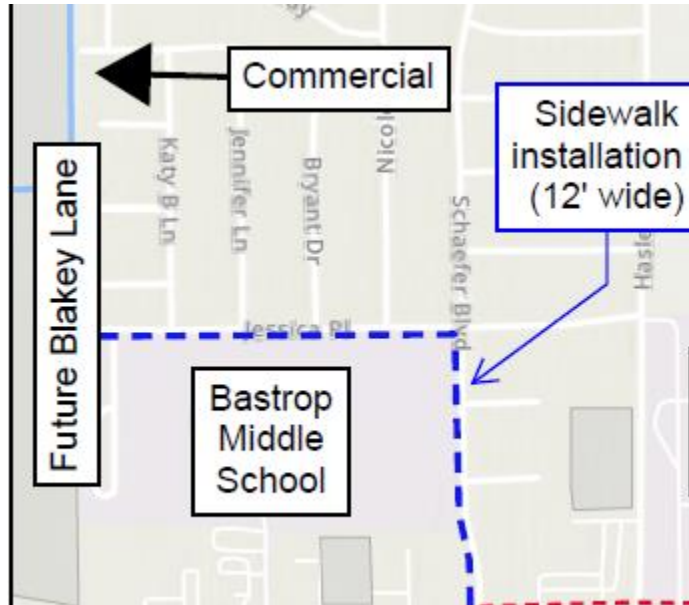
BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

On January 3, 2025, TxDOT announced its 2025 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Call for Projects. This Call for Projects provides funding to plan for and construct a variety of alternative transportation projects that improve safety and mobility for non-motorized travelers and mitigate congestion by providing safe alternatives to motor vehicle transport.

This Call for Projects features a two-step application process. The Preliminary Application (Step 1) due Friday, February 21, 2025, provides high-level proposed project information to determine eligibility and funding opportunities. Following successful completion of Step 1, a Detailed Application (Step 2) provides more comprehensive project information. Step 2 will be distributed to eligible project sponsors on or about April 16, 2025. The anticipated Commission Award is October 2025.

Project sponsors are allowed two applications, but a maximum of one TA project can be awarded to the sponsor. The City of Bastrop is the project sponsor. Staff is proposing the following projects.

The first project application, Old Austin Hwy Shared Use Path Improvements, is a sidewalk improvement project from the eastern end of Old Austin Hwy up to Bastrop Middle School as shown in Exhibit A. This project will include widening the existing 4' sidewalk along the north side of Old Austin Hwy to a 12' wide shared-use path and installing a new 12' wide sidewalk along Schaefer Blvd and Jessica Place that borders Bastrop Middle School. This project falls under the Community-Based category and will include preliminary engineering and construction as part of the application. This project aims to provide a safer connection from schools and will be part of a larger commercial corridor.



The second project application is Pedestrian Crossing Improvements. This project will include upgrading current pedestrian crossing signs with high-visibility additions and/or ADA improvements as needed. Staff held a workshop on Monday, February 10, 2025, to determine which crossings will be included in the scope. This project falls under the Network Enhancements category, which has limited or no design. This project aims to prioritize pedestrians by increasing visibility at crosswalks.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The local match for the awarded project is 20% and will come from the FY2026 Street Fund.

The estimated cost for the Old Austin Hwy Shared Use Path Improvements is \$800,000.00, with a local match of \$160,000.00.

The estimated project costs and local match for Pedestrian Crossing Improvements will be calculated at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Resolution R-2025-37 along with all accompanying documents.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution No. R-2025-37
- Exhibit A – Shared-Use Concept Plan