

## AGENDA ITEM SUBMISSION FORM

Any item(s) to be considered for action by the City Council, must be included on this form, and be submitted along with any supporting documentation. Completed Agenda Item Submission forms must be submitted to the City Secretary's Office no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Monday of the week prior to the Regular Council meeting.

Requestor Name: Lopez, Gabriel Date Submitted: 02/08/2023

Last, First MM/DD/YYYY

Requestor Type: City Staff Meeting Date: 02/14/2023

Citizen/City Staff/Council Member MM/DD/YYYY

**Position Title** Engineering Tech

For City Staff Only

**Agenda Location:** Discussion Item

(e.g.: Consent Agenda/ Discussion Item/ Public Hearing/ Executive Session/ Presentation)

## **Agenda Content:**

DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND/OR APPROVE BAY CITY'S AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (RFP) AND REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES-SET ASIDE PROGRAM FUNDED THROUGH THE TX. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

## **Executive Summary of Item:**

The Texas Department of Transportation will be accepting applications this year for the biannual Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program. TxDOT allocates funds towards bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects that enhance access and safety to school-related destinations enabling and encouraging children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle.

If awarded, the grant would help fund the construction of the Southern Pacific Trailway. The Trailway will be a 10' Shared Used Path (SUP), with lighting for nighttime use, that runs along the old railbed owned by the city. A portion of the Trailway, between Sycamore and Cottonwood Ave, has already been built and would tie into the new construction. The SUP, when completed in its entirety, will connect the High School, Jr High, downtown, Hardeman Park, Barkway Park, Amistad Park and surrounding neighborhoods, providing safe and alternative methods of transportation.

This year TxDOT has done away with population requirements and is allowing applicants to apply for both small scale community projects, with a \$250,000 to \$5 million award, and large-scale active transportation infrastructure, with awards ranging from \$5 million to \$25 million. The TA Set Aside Program provides 80% federal funds with a 20% minimum local match required. For TxDOT's 2023 TA Call for Projects, all projects that meet the economic criteria may be eligible to apply for state Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) that allow for 100% federal TA funds to be applied to the project in lieu of a local match. Bay City is eligible and will be requesting TDCs to meet local matching requirements.

A meeting with the TxDOT district office in Yoakum is to be scheduled before March 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss and determine project scope of work and eligibility. After receiving TxDOT preliminary application approval, a detailed application will be submitted into the award competition by the due date, June 5, 2023.

It is staff's recommendation to authorize the City of Bay City to issue RFPs and RFQs for administrative and engineering services on TxDOT's Transportation Alternatives-Set Aside Program.