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## CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ITEM

### CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

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**AGENDA TOPIC:** Consideration and possible action approving a resolution authorizing the submission of project application(s) to the Texas Department of Transportation for FY 2026-27 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding, and execution of all documents relative to the submission by the City Manager

**DATE:** December 7, 2023

**DEPARTMENT:** Public Works and Engineering Services

**PRESENTED BY:** Grant Watanabe, P.E., Director of Public Works and Engineering Services  
Jeanne Tarrants, RSP<sub>2I</sub>, Legacy Engineering Group  
Oscar Michael Garza, PE, PTOE, RSP<sub>1</sub>, Legacy Engineering Group

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#### **INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:**

The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) is a federal-aid program for which the purpose is to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads. The HSIP requires each state to have a comprehensive Strategic Highway Safety Plan that defines safety goals and strategies to enhance safety. Through this program, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has provided hundreds of millions of dollars for HSIP projects focusing on various safety measures such as installing barriers, curve improvements, intersection improvements, pedestrian safety, rumble strips, widening highways, and other off-system improvements submitted by local agencies. Potential HSIP projects include a specific countermeasure to a trend of safety related issues in a targeted area, or a systemic approach to mitigating safety concerns that are proven to enhance safety over time. For projects selected, the federal program funds 90% of the anticipated construction costs with the local government responsible for funding the remaining 10% plus all engineering, environmental and indirect costs.

Each TxDOT district is allotted a portion of the state's annual HSIP funding for on-system (TxDOT roadways) and off-system (non-TxDOT roadways) projects. In FY 2022-23, the City was the recipient of \$2.56 million in HSIP funding for the off-system Post Oak Trail Widening Project. For FY 2026-27, the amount of funding programmed for off-system projects within the TxDOT San Antonio District is anticipated to be \$2.88 million.

Tonight's presentation provides an overview of the HSIP program and identifies several potential candidate projects for consideration. Staff seeks Council approval to submit project(s) for the FY 2026-27 HSIP funding cycle. The following candidate projects will be discussed during the presentation:

- Ammann Road Curve Safety Improvements – Softens both 90-degree curves and provides paved shoulders, pavement marking and signage to keep vehicles from running off the road. This project was previously submitted for FY 2025-26 HSIP funding but not approved.
- Rolling Acres Trail Widening – Reconstructs and provides paved shoulders, pavement marking and signage between Ammann Road and Meadow Creek Trail. This project

constitutes a portion of the approved Rolling Acres Trail Roadway Reconstruction CIP project.

- Silver Spur Widening - Provides paved shoulders, pavement marking and signage between Venturer and Rolling Acres Trail. This is not an approved Roadway CIP project.

Staff recommends that the **Ammann Road Curve Safety Improvement** project be selected and submitted to TxDOT for the FY 2026-27 funding cycle. This project has crash and injury data within the reporting window (2020-2022), experiences higher traffic than other identified locations, and is supported by both the City of Boerne and Kendall County. In addition, the “County At A Crossroads” report identified this project as a needed short-term improvement within the region. Staff is open to submitting other projects; however, they may not be as competitive as the Ammann Road Curve Safety Improvements project based on HSIP program requirements and rating criteria.

The attached resolution (**Exhibit A**) includes the Ammann Road Curve Safety Improvement project as the recommended project; however, Council may replace or add additional projects if so desired.

**POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:**

- Meets Strategic Action Plan item 3.4 – Enhance and Ensure Continuity of Reliable Roadway Improvement Initiatives
- Furthers the City’s commitment to roadway safety and reducing the number of serious or fatal injuries on City streets
- Takes advantage of grant funding opportunities which reduces future debt financing requirements and save taxpayers money

**LONG-TERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

There is no financial or budgetary impact related to the submission of projects for HSIP grant funding. Should the City’s project be approved, staff will present the City’s financial obligations during the next budget cycle and bring back a draft TxDOT Advance Funding Agreement as a future agenda item. If approved, the City’s projected match for the Ammann Road Curve Safety Improvement project is estimated to be \$500,000 (\$200,000 to cover 10% of construction cost, \$250,000 for engineering, and \$50,000 for ROW acquisition and administrative costs). This does not include any contributions from the City of Boerne or Kendall County.

**LEGAL ANALYSIS:**

Legal has reviewed and approved the resolution as to form.

**RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTIONS:**

I move to approve a resolution authorizing the submission of project application(s) to the Texas Department of Transportation for FY2026-27 Highway Safety Improvement Program funding, and execution of all documents relative to the submission by the City Manager.