



CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ITEM

CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

June 16, 2022

AGENDA TOPIC: Consideration and possible action on selecting project(s) from the City of Fair Oaks Ranch's approved Roadway Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for participation in the Federal-Aid Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

DATE: June 16, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works Department

PRESENTED BY: Grant Watanabe, P.E., Director of Public Works and Engineering Services
Oscar Michael Garza, PE, PTOE, RSP₁, City General Engineering Consultant

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) is a federal-aid program with the purpose 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 (SHSP) that defines safety goals and strategies to enhance safety. Through this program, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has programmed hundreds of millions of dollars of 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 an area, or a systemic approach to mitigating safety concerns that are proven to enhance safety over time. For any project selected, the federal program would fund 90% of the anticipated construction costs with the local government funding the final 10%, engineering, and indirect costs.

In early May 2022, the city's GEC and staff were informed by local TxDOT representatives that HSIP funding had become available for off-system (non-TxDOT roadways) projects within the TxDOT San Antonio District. On May 19th, a presentation was provided to City Council seeking direction on how to proceed. At the conclusion, Council directed the GEC and staff to further research and prioritize potential projects for future Council consideration.

The presentation tonight will provide a recap of the city's Roadway Capital Improvement Plan along with a list of recommended project(s) that fall within the \$2.5 million HISP funds available to the City of Fair Oaks Ranch. As funding availability can be decreased at any time, tonight, staff desires to receive Council's selection of one or more projects.

POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:

The health, safety, and welfare of Fair Oaks Ranch residents is the paramount objective of the Public Works Department; these projects will enhance the safety of the existing roadway network for citizens at a fraction of the cost it would normally take to do so.

Most of the projects presented are listed in the City’s approved Roadway Capital Improvement Plan (CIP); therefore, any federal funding awarded for these safety measures will offset future local funding sources, debts, and/or obligations.

LONG-TERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Depending on the project(s) selected, an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) will be developed and provided to TxDOT in FY 2023. The details and timing of this AFA would be provided to City Council for a final vote at a future meeting and considered within the FY 2023 budget.

LEGAL ANALYSIS:

The City has previously approved multiple on-call professional engineering services contracts with various consultants that are available to begin the engineering and clearance processes for any project(s) selected. The city’s GEC will also continue to support staff as needed with the overall project development and implementation. The only new contract that would be required is the AFA with TxDOT, which will be provided to City Council at a future date.

RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTION:

I move to approve the HSIP funds be used for the following project or projects:

and direct staff to move forward with the development of both the project and an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) between TxDOT and the City.