

RESOLUTION 2024-149
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
SUPPORTING GRANT APPLICATION FOR LOCAL MATCH FUNDING
IN SUPPORT OF THE MIDTOWN CENTRAL CORRIDOR PROJECT

A. The Midtown Central Corridor Project (the “Project”) aims to reimagine South College Avenue in Midtown, between Drake Road and Boardwalk Drive, as a unique corridor that is accessible and safe for all, including pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles, while also allowing for adjacent neighborhoods to easily access all the amenities and services in the corridor.

B. Planning of several possible improvements for the Project has been underway for more than a decade and includes the 2013 Midtown Master Plan and the 2014 Midtown in Motion Study that were developed with input from businesses along the corridor and the wider community and also includes the establishment in 2017 of the Midtown Business Improvement District (“BID”).

C. The current stage of the Project will finalize plans for future construction in 2028 of the 1.33-mile corridor of College Avenue from Boardwalk Drive to, and including, the West Drake Road intersection. The scope of the design covers infrastructure updates for the corridor to improve safety for all modes of travel, business access, Americans with Disabilities Act access and compliance, active modes infrastructure, access to the adjacent bus rapid transit line and regional Mason trail, and stormwater drainage.

D. The Midtown BID and the City have committed support for conceptual design for the Project, including having contributed funding (see Ordinance No. 037, 2022 and Resolution 2022-053), and the City’s Planning Development and Transportation (“PDT”) Engineering Department is working to secure additional funding including state and federal grants to support implementation.

E. Under Municipal Code Section 22-44, the City may accept grants in aid of the construction of any local public improvements.

F. In support of the Project, PDT’s Engineering Department pursued planning funds under the non-federal match requirement included in the Department of Transportation’s FY2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (“RAISE”) discretionary grant program (see Resolution 2024-006). The City was unsuccessful in the request for funds under the RY2024 RAISE grant program.

G. In further support of the Project, PDT’s Engineering Department is pursuing additional planning funds under the non-federal match requirement included in the Department of Transportation’s FY2025 RAISE discretionary grant program.

H. The FY2025 RAISE federal funding opportunity requires the City to contribute at least 20% of total project costs. Although the City has committed funds,

combined with a cash contribution from Midtown BID, there is a funding gap in meeting the match requirement for the proposed planning project.

I. Colorado's Department of Local Affairs ("DOLA") has funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA," also known as the "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law") Local Match grant program ("LOMA") that provides funding to support local governments in meeting the match requirement under IIJA grant programs. The RAISE grant program is an IIJA funded program.

J. To support meeting the funding gap for the City's required match for the proposed planning project under the FY2025 RAISE grant program, the Engineering Department intends to apply for grant funds under this DOLA LOMA grant program to cover the needed matching funds. The City anticipates success applying for DOLA LOMA grant funds, because although the City's application for FY2024 RAISE grant funds was unsuccessful, the City's application for matching funds from the DOLA LOMA grant program was successful. Those funds could not be accepted due to not receiving the FY2024 RAISE grant.

K. Support of the Engineering Department in applying to this DOLA LOMA grant program does not impact City finances. If the grant is awarded, the City will seek appropriation of the grant funds from City Council.

L. The City Council finds and determines that the adoption of this resolution advances the public's health, safety, and welfare by facilitating further design and improvement of the City's transportation safety and infrastructure and by facilitating cost-sharing among local, state, and federal entities.

In light of the foregoing recitals, which the Council hereby makes and adopts as determinations and findings, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. The City Council approves and supports the application for further funding for the Midtown Central Corridor Project and intends to provide required matching funds or other contributions required for the Project.

Section 2. The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute agreements related to grant money for funding for the Midtown Central Corridor Project, with terms and conditions as the City Manager, in consultation with the City Attorney, determines to be necessary and appropriate to protect the interests of the City and to effectuate the purposes of this resolution, provided that all required matching funds have been appropriated before execution.

Section 3. The City Council supports the continuation of the Midtown Central Corridor Project.

Passed and adopted on December 17, 2024.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Effective Date: December 17, 2024
Approving Attorney: Heather N. Jarvis