

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Florian Fiebig, Project Manager
Dana Hornkohl, Capital Projects Manager

SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance No. 052, 2026, Appropriating Prior Year Reserves and Making a Supplemental Appropriation and Authorizing Transfers of Appropriations for Taft Hill Corridor Improvements – Horsetooth Road to Brixton Road Project and Related Art in Public Places.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to appropriate federal, State of Colorado Nonattainment Air Pollution Mitigation Enterprise (NAAPME), Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), and local funds for the Taft Hill Corridor Improvements – Horsetooth Road to Brixton Road project (Project). The funds will be used to complete design and construct transportation improvements along Taft Hill Road, between Horsetooth Road and Brixton Road. These improvements will create safer conditions for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists traveling the corridor.

At the second reading for this Ordinance, staff plans to bring forth two additional items relating to the Project. There will be two resolutions to authorize the City to receive and expend the funding appropriated in Ordinance No. 052, 2026. One resolution will authorize an intergovernmental grant agreement with NAAPME, and the second resolution will authorize an amendment to an intergovernmental agreement with CDOT and Larimer County.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

The Project will make improvements to the Taft Hill Road corridor between Horsetooth Road and Brixton Road (Taft Hill Corridor Improvements Project Location Map attachment). . If approved, this item will:

- 1) appropriate \$539,864 of NAAPME Community Clean Transportation Assistance Program (CCTAP) grant funds for the Project;
- 2) appropriate \$1,251,287 of Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF) grant funds to the Project;
- 3) appropriate an additional \$163,902 of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program grant funds to the Project;
- 4) appropriate \$107,057 of Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) grant funds to the Project;

- 5) appropriate \$250,000 of Highway Improvement Program (HIP) grant funds to the Project;
- 6) appropriate \$358,196 of Transportation Services Reserve Funds (TSRF) to the Project;
- 7) appropriate \$1,844,347 of Larimer County Regional Road Fees (LCRRF) to the Project;
- 8) transfer \$250,000 of Community Capital Improvement Program – Arterial Intersection Improvements (CCIP-AII) funds to the Project;
- 9) transfer \$100,000 of Community Capital Improvement Program – Bicycle Infrastructure Improvements (CCIP-BII) funds to the Project;
- 10) transfer \$200,000 of Community Capital Improvement Program – Pedestrian Sidewalk (CCIP-PS) funds to the Project; and
- 11) transfer \$21,807 (1% of the eligible funds) in capital project funds to the Art in Public Places (APP) program.

This is a joint project between the City and Larimer County and lies in Fort Collins Growth Management Area (GMA). Work began on the project in 2018 and originally included improvements between Horsetooth Road and Harmony Road. The Project scope has been expanded twice: 1) extended the improvements to Brixton Road (2020), and 2) included recommended Active Modes Plan (AMP) improvements (2022). The City's Master Street Plan calls for this section of Taft Hill Road to be a four-lane arterial. The Project will improve this corridor to meet Larimer County Urban Area Street Standards (LCUASS). The AMP improvements include separated bike lanes and a widened sidewalk south of Harmony Road on the east side of the Project. Crossing improvements at Imperial Drive and Brixton Road are not currently included in the Project. Staff sought additional grant funding to include these improvements but were unsuccessful. Staff will continue to apply for funding opportunities for these improvements as opportunities become available.

The total cost of the Project is estimated to be \$10,400,000. The Project has received approximately \$6,100,000 in grant funding (59% of the estimated total project cost) listed below.

- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program: \$4,000,000, 2020 and 2023
- Community Clean Transportation Assistance Program (CCTAP): \$540,000, 2024
- Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF): \$1,300,000, 2024
- Carbon Reduction Program (CRP): \$107,000, 2024
- Community Project Funding (CPF): \$250,000, 2025

The initial STBG grant, local match, and overmatch were authorized and appropriated by City Council in 2020 (Ordinance No. 007, 2020, Ordinance No. 008, 2020, and Resolution 2020-001). The 2024 MMOF award was subject to budget reconciliation by the State of Colorado. The initial MMOF award amount of \$1,700,000 was reduced to \$1,251,287. The North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization was able to backfill some of this reduction with STBG (\$163,902) and CRP (\$107,057) funding. The Project had been wait-listed for these funds in a previous call for projects. It is anticipated that the State's budget will again be very tight in 2026. There is a high probability that MMOF awards may be reduced further as a result. The City and County would like to encumber the funding and begin construction to remove the current award from consideration for a potential reduction in 2026. In addition, the original STBG award funding will expire in 2029. City and County staff view this as the best time to move forward with construction to avoid potential construction cost escalation, such as escalation due to rising oil prices. Construction documents have been finalized, and property acquisition is nearing completion.

The City has contributed \$15,460 in funding to cover the APP program obligation. The County has contributed \$1,500,000 in Larimer County Regional Road Fee (LCRRF) to the Project. The proposed supplemental appropriation would have the City contribute an additional \$908,000 in a mix of transportation-related funding and the County would contribute an additional \$1,800,000 in LCRRF. These contributions would allow the Project to be advertised for construction as early as May of this year.

The City has received additional funding provided by the NAAPME and CDOT pursuant to

intergovernmental grant agreements anticipated to be authorized by resolutions that will be brought forth during Second Reading of the Ordinance. The appropriations in this Ordinance are conditional on the City receiving the grant awards and executing the intergovernmental agreements according to the respective resolutions. If the City does not receive the grant funding within one year of the appropriations of grant funding herein, the appropriations will lapse and any local match appropriated will revert back to its original fund and purposes.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The following is a summary of the funding anticipated for design, acquisition, and construction for the Taft Hill Corridor Improvement – Horsetooth Road to Brixton Road project. The total fund amount for the Project is \$10,438,306 composed of funds appropriated or transferred with this action and prior appropriated or transferred funds.

Prior Appropriated or Transferred Funds	
Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program	\$ 3,834,025
Transportation Services Fund (TSF)	\$ 15,460
Larimer County Regional Road Fees (LORRF)	\$ 1,545,975
Total Prior Appropriations or Transfers	\$ 5,395,460

Funds to be Appropriated or Transferred	
Community Clean Transportation Assistance Program	\$ 539,864
Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF)	\$ 1,251,287
Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program	\$ 163,902
Carbon Reduction Program (CRP)	\$ 107,057
Highway Improvement Program (HIP) Grant Funds	\$ 250,000
Transportation Services Reserve Fund (TSRF)	\$ 358,196
Larimer County Regional Road Fees (LORRF)	\$ 1,844,347
Community Capital Improvement Program - Arterial Intersection Improvements (CCIP-AII)	\$ 250,000
Community Capital Improvement Program - Bicycle Infrastructure Improvements (CCIP-BII)	\$ 100,000
Community Capital Improvement Program - Pedestrian Sidewalk (CCIP-PS)	\$ 200,000
Net Total Project Funds to be Appropriated or Transferred	\$ 5,064,653

Proposed Transfer to Art in Public Places (APP) Program	\$ 21,807
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Total Capital Project Funds	\$ 10,438,306
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BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Council Finance Committee reviewed the request for supplemental appropriation for the Project at their April 2, 2026, meeting. The Committee wanted to understand the amount of grant funding in the Project at risk for being subject to the State budget reconciliation. This amount is \$1,251,287 in MMOF grant funds. The Committee also asked for confirmation that motor vehicle lane widths are being minimized to better accommodate pedestrian crossings. Motor vehicle lane widths have been reduced to eleven feet (11'), the minimum LCUASS allows, from the existing widths of twelve feet (12'). The Committee supported the supplemental appropriation request go before Council (Attachment 5).

PUBLIC OUTREACH

There has been significant public outreach conducted for the Project. The community surrounding the Project area was notified with letters and door hangers in 2020. A virtual open house was held on November 18, 2020. An in-person open house was held on November 14, 2022. The Project was presented at each of the past four City of Fort Collins Transportation Project Fairs (February 23, 2023, February 22, 2024, March 6, 2025, and February 6, 2026). Most recently, two meetings were held with Taft Canyon residents to address their questions and concerns (February 4, 2026 and February 11, 2026).

ATTACHMENTS / LINKS

1. Taft Hill Corridor Improvements Project Location Map
2. Ordinance No. 007, 2020 (copy)
3. Ordinance No. 008, 2020 (copy)
4. Resolution 2020-001 (copy)
5. Council Finance Committee Minutes, April 2, 2026 (excerpt)
6. Ordinance No. 052, 2026