



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council

STAFF

Gunnar Hale, Project Manager
Dana Hornkohl, Capital Projects Manager

SUBJECT

Items Relating to the Laporte Avenue Multimodal Improvement Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. Resolution 2024-025 Authorizing an Amendment to an Existing Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Fort Collins, Colorado, and the Colorado Department of Transportation for the Laporte Avenue Multimodal Improvement Project.

B. First Reading of Ordinance No. 038, 2024, Making Supplemental Appropriations, Appropriating Prior Year Reserves and Authorizing Transfers of Appropriations for the Laporte Avenue Multimodal Improvement Project and Related Art in Public Places.

The purpose of this item is to enable the City to receive and expend Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) funds for the Laporte Avenue Multimodal Improvement Project (Laporte Project). The funds will be used for construction of improvements along Laporte Ave from Fishback Avenue to Sunset Street. If approved this item will: 1) authorize the Mayor to execute an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Laporte Project with CDOT; 2) appropriate \$2,500,000 of Transportation Alternative grant funds for the Laporte Project; 3) use \$122,727 from the Bicycle Infrastructure Improvements Community Capital Improvement Program (CCIP Bike Program) as part of the local match; 4) use \$102,273 from the Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements Community Capital Improvement Program (CCIP Pedestrian Program) as part of the local match; 5) appropriate as part of the local match contribution \$223,425 from the Transportation Capital Expansion Fee Reserves (TCEF); 6) appropriate as part of the local match contribution \$222,750 from General Fund Reserves; 7) appropriate \$1,755 (0.78% of the TCEF amount of the 1% contribution for the artwork portion of APP) from TCEF Reserves to the Art in Public Places Program; 8) appropriate \$495 (0.22% of the TCEF amount of the 1% contribution to APP) from the Transportation Fund Reserves to the Art in Public Places Program; 9) appropriate \$2,250 (1% of the General Fund amount) from the General Fund to the Art in Public Places Program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution and Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Laporte Avenue between Fishback Avenue and Sunset Street is a two-lane arterial roadway. Most of the roadway within the Laporte Project limits lacks adequate bicycle and pedestrian facilities including sidewalk, bike lanes, curb and gutter. The roadway experiences heavy bicycle and pedestrian traffic

especially with Poudre High School, and many residential neighborhoods and businesses being located adjacent to the Laporte Project limits. Several near misses and at least one serious vehicle-pedestrian accident have occurred in 2015 within the Laporte Project limits. The corridor currently experiences a higher-than-expected volume of traffic accidents due to the lack of adequate infrastructure. Laporte Avenue is master planned to be on the City’s low-stress bicycle network. The Laporte Project will address the safety concerns and lack of multimodal infrastructure.

In 2019, the City applied for two grants: a federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant and a state Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Options Fund (MMOF) grant. In 2020 the TAP and MMOF funds were awarded to the City through the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for the design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction of the Laporte Project. In 2021 the City applied for and was awarded the Revitalizing Mainstreet (RMS) Grant. These grant funds along with Transportation Capital Expansion Fee (TCEF) Program funds and Transportation Services funds used as the required matching funds were appropriated in 2022 via Resolution 2022-027. These funds were used to fund design, right-of-way acquisition, and partial construction.

In 2023 the City applied for and was awarded \$2,500,000 in additional TAP funds through the NFRMPO. These funds are required to complete construction of the Laporte Project planned for 2024. These grant funds require a 20% matching funds obligation from the local agency. General Fund, CCIP Bike Program, CCIP Pedestrian Program, and TCEF program funds will be used for the local match portion, as well as an additional \$50,000 in overmatch funds. This local funding scenario was brought before the Council Finance Committee on February 23, 2024, and approved.

Per Chapter 23 of the City Code, Article XII (addressing Art in Public Places), Section 23-304, all appropriations for construction projects estimated to cost over \$250,000 shall include an amount equal to one percent of the estimated cost for works of art. Funds from all three grants are ineligible for use toward public art. Community Capital Improvement Program (CCIP) funds have already satisfied the required contribution to public art for the initial appropriation. For the proposed appropriation the total Art in Public Places funds to be appropriated is \$4,500. This item will transfer \$1,750 of the TCEF appropriations and \$2,250 of the General Fund appropriations to the Art in Public Places Program. Staff has identified the Transportation Services Fund Reserves as a means to provide the additional \$750 needed to provide long-term maintenance for the art.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The following is a summary of the funding anticipated for design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction for the Laporte Avenue Multimodal Improvement Project:

Prior Appropriated Funds	
Community Capital Improvement Program (CCIP) Local Funds (2017-2018 BFO Offer 1.7)	\$300,000
Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant Funds	\$750,000
Multimodal Options Funds (MMOF) Grant Funds	\$250,000
Revitalizing Mainstreet (RMS) Grant Funds	\$1,437,500
Transportation Capital Expansion Fee (TCEF) Funds	\$388,830
Transportation Services Fund Reserves	\$1,170
Total Prior Appropriation	\$3,127,500

Funds to be Appropriated with this Action	
Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant Funds	\$2,500,000
<i>Community Capital Improvement Program (CCIP) Bike Program*</i>	\$122,727
<i>Community Capital Improvement Program (CCIP) Pedestrian Program*</i>	\$102,273
Transportation Capital Expansion Fee (TCEF) Funds Reserves	\$225,000
General Fund Reserves	\$225,000
Transportation Services Fund Reserves (for Art in Public Places contribution)	\$495
Total Funds to be Appropriated per this Action	\$3,175,495
Transfer to Art in Public Places	\$4,500
Total Project Funds	\$6,302,995

**These funds were previously appropriated through the 23-24 BFO Cycle and were transferred to the Capital Projects Fund and appropriated therein but are noted in this action as they will be used as part of the TAP grant's local match.*

The total fund amount projected for this Laporte Project is \$6,302,995 composed of funds appropriated with prior actions and with this action.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

City staff presented this Laporte Project to the Council Finance Committee on August 11, 2021, and February 23, 2024. The Laporte Project was also presented to the Transportation Board as well as the Bicycle Advisory Committee in 2020. Council Finance Committee supports an out of cycle supplemental appropriation for the Transportation Alternative Program local match to fund construction for the Laporte Project.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Staff has developed a comprehensive Public Engagement Plan for the Laporte Project. Staff has discussed and presented conceptual level drawings at several public outreach events with an open house in October of 2019, two public meetings held on May 1, 2023, and May 23, 2023, and the Transportation Fair in February of 2023 and February 2024. A project website is regularly updated with project information and upcoming milestones.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution for Consideration
2. Exhibit A to Resolution
3. Ordinance for Consideration
4. Laporte Avenue Multimodal Project - Vicinity Map
5. Council Finance Committee Draft Meeting Minutes, February 23, 2024