



LEGISLATIVE COVER MEMO

Introduction: March 2, 2026

Agenda Item: **Resolution 2026-18**

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR THE EAST 4TH STREET & BEAM AVENUE STUDENT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Submitted by: Eric Damian, City Engineer

Scope/Description: The City of Franklin, in partnership with Franklin City Schools, desires to apply for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure funding through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the East 4th Street & Beam Avenue Student Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project. The project will implement safety improvements at a high-volume student crossing serving the City's Junior High and Intermediate School. Despite existing countermeasures at this location, vehicle-pedestrian conflicts and near-miss incidents continue to occur during school arrival and dismissal periods. The proposed project consists of permanent infrastructure improvements located within both the City's public right-of-way and Franklin City Schools property. Improvements include roadway and school drive realignment, curb extensions (bump-outs) to shorten pedestrian crossing distances, and related geometric and safety enhancements. The project is identified in the City's School Travel Plan and is consistent with regional active transportation planning efforts.

Budget Impact: The total estimated project cost is \$746,740 (Seven Hundred Forty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Dollars), including engineering, construction, and construction engineering. The City of Franklin and Franklin City Schools intend to request \$547,610 (Five Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand Six Hundred Ten Dollars) in Safe Routes to School Infrastructure funding. If awarded, SRTS funding will be applied to eligible project costs. The City of Franklin and Franklin City Schools will work cooperatively to determine responsibility for any costs not covered by the SRTS award, including cost overruns.

The City will serve as the project sponsor and administering agency and will manage all phases of project development and construction in accordance with federal and Ohio Department of Transportation requirements. Franklin City Schools will provide input throughout project development. The project must be constructed by Fiscal Year 2029 in accordance with program requirements.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Resolution.

CITY OF FRANKLIN, OHIO
RESOLUTION 2026-18

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR THE EAST 4TH STREET & BEAM AVENUE STUDENT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has set aside monies for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Projects through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), and local communities may apply for and receive such funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin Safe Routes to School Travel Plan dated March 25, 2025 identifies pedestrian safety concerns along East 4th Street and Beam Avenue and recommends engineering countermeasures at this location; and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin, in partnership with Franklin City Schools, desires to apply for SRTS Infrastructure funding for the East 4th Street & Beam Avenue Student Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project, which will serve Franklin Intermediate School and Franklin Junior High; and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin will serve as the administering agency for the project and, together with Franklin City Schools, intends to work cooperatively to determine responsibility for any project costs not covered by the grant award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Franklin, Ohio, a majority of Councilmembers present concurring, that:

Section 1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and submit an application to the Ohio Department of Transportation for Safe Routes to School Infrastructure funding for the East 4th Street & Beam Avenue Student Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project.

Section 2. That upon award of funding, the City Manager is authorized to enter into agreements with the Ohio Department of Transportation necessary to implement the project in accordance with all applicable program requirements.

Section 3. That the City of Franklin shall serve as the administering agency and be responsible for project design, construction, and compliance with all applicable federal and state requirements.

Section 4. That the City of Franklin and Franklin City Schools shall work cooperatively to determine responsibility for any project costs not covered by the Safe Routes to School grant award.

Section 5. It is found that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council that resulted in this formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, and the Rules of Council.

Section 6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED: March 2, 2026

ATTEST: _____
Khristi Dunn, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: _____
Brent Centers, Mayor

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Clerk of Council for the Franklin City Council, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed by that body on March 2, 2026.

_____ Khristi Dunn, Clerk of Council