



FRUITA
COLORADO

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

TO: FRUITA CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

FROM: SHANNON VASSEN, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

DATE: MARCH 21, 2023

AGENDA TEXT: LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTED SPENDING REQUESTS - A Request to Authorize the Mayor to Sign Letters of Support for Projects to be Submitted to Congresswoman Lauren Boebert.

BACKGROUND

Late this week, staff was informed that Congresswoman Lauren Boebert (Colorado Congressional District 3) will be accepting requests for community projects to be submitted for Congressional Directed Spending. Community projects need to be submitted to Congresswoman Boebert by March 22.

Earlier this month, staff submitted four projects to be considered for Congressional Directed Spending to both United States Senators Hickenlooper and Bennet. Each year, members of the United States Congress and Senate accept these requests and recommend specific projects to be funded through the federal appropriations process.

The projects that were submitted are included in the Fruita Strategic Plan and are key priorities for the City of Fruita in the near future. The City of Fruita requested funding for the replacement of the Maple Street Bridge, 19 Road Intersection and Road Improvements, the Fremont Street Intersection Construction, and for the replacement of sewer lines that have deteriorated due to H₂S Gas.

It is anticipated that staff will submit the same community projects to Congresswoman Boebert. To submit these requests, a letter of support is required from two agencies. This is a request to authorize the Mayor to sign Letters of Support in support of these projects and the Congressional Directed Spending Request.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with signing these Letters of Support. If any of these projects are funded through the federal appropriations process, it is anticipated that the funding will significantly offset the costs of these projects to the City of Fruita. Further, the City Council has already approved funding for most of these projects in the 2023 Budget, specifically for Right-of-Way Acquisition and Design costs for 19 Road, Fremont Street, and the Maple Street Bridge. Any fiscal impact will not occur until future budget years, however, as if awarded, the appropriation would take place in 2024. The award and approval of the project would then be subject to approval from the City Council through the annual budget process.

APPLICABILITY TO CITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

These projects are included in the Fruita Strategic Plan and support the City's goals of maintain and improving the quality of city streets and traffic flow in Fruita and providing key core services for residents.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL

- Authorize the Mayor to sign Letters of Support for projects to be submitted for Congressional Directed Spending.
- Advise staff to revise the letters and authorize the Mayor to sign it with changes.

RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of staff that the Council by motion:

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTED SPENDING.