



FRUITA

COLORADO

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

TO: FRUITA CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

FROM: SHANNON VASSEN, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2022

RE: RESOLUTION 2022-03 - A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF THE REVITALIZING MAIN STREETS PROGRAM FOR S. MESA STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

BACKGROUND

The City has been aggressive and successful at leveraging limited funding with grants to accomplish planning, design, maintenance, and construction for many years. Currently, in addition to the traditional grants the City seeks, new funding sources are available from legislation focused on the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of Colorado's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, in 2021, the state legislature approved \$30 million for the Revitalizing Main Streets Program administered through the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). The program is intended to help communities across the state implement transportation-related projects that improve safety and yield long-term benefits to community main streets. When defining a main street, CDOT is aiming to support areas in or adjacent to community-focused downtowns where people work, dine and shop. These routes help form a specific region's identity and act as the major economic hub in many towns and cities across Colorado. CDOT administered the first round of the grant program last summer, and the City of Fruita did apply for a grant for safety improvements to S. Mesa Street, but the project was not awarded funding.

This year, CDOT has announced a second round of the Revitalizing Main Street program and \$22 million is available in grant funding. Due to this unique grant opportunity, staff is in the process of preparing an application to again apply for funding to construct vehicular and pedestrian safety improvements to South Mesa Street.

Staff has prepared an application to construct the improvements to South Mesa Street between the Circle and Highway 6&50. This is a project that was identified as a priority in previous master plans, specifically the Fruita Civic Center Memorial Park and Downtown Streetscape Improvements Plan. Following the adoption of that plan, due to S. Mesa Street being a high

priority, a design and construction drawings were completed to prepare for the project.

The improvements to S. Mesa Street are part of a phased approach to improving safety and generating economic development to the downtown Fruita area. Initial costs projections estimate that the total project, if this grant is funded, will cost around \$2,400,000. CDOT is providing grant funding of up to \$2,000,000 for this opportunity, and the City will be required to cover the rest of the project (minimum project match is 80/20).

FISCAL IMPACT

The City is required to contribute a 20% match for this grant and staff has identified sources for that match that includes Transportation Impact Fees, American Recovery Act Funds, Sewer Funds, and potential use of Fund Balance. The cost to the City will be \$480,000; \$230,000 will from the Sewer Fund (for the sewer specific improvements) and \$250,000 from the General Fund.

APPLICABILITY TO CITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The City strives to be a bike and pedestrian friendly community connecting parks, schools, neighborhoods, civic facilities and commercial areas by providing quality essential infrastructure a core service of the City that enhances Quality of Place and safety to the public.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL:

As a requirement of the grant, the City Council is required to formal action on this before an application can be submitted. The options available to the City Council are:

1. Approve Resolution 2022-03, A Resolution Supporting a Grant Application to the Colorado Department of Transportation for the second round of the Revitalizing Main Streets Programs for S. Mesa Street Improvements.
2. Advise staff to amend the grant application or project that has been presented.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of staff that Council:

ADOPT RESOLUTION 2022-03, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF THE REVITALIZING MAIN STREETS PROGRAM FOR S. MESA STREET IMPROVEMENTS.