



# CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK

## CITY COUNCIL

### AGENDA COVER SHEET

---

<b>Meeting Date</b>	03/28/2024
<b>Originating Department</b>	Public Works
<b>Contact Person</b>	Katie Phillips, Project Manager
<b>Title</b>	Town Center to Burke-Gilman Trail Connector design options

---

#### Legislative History

- First Presentation – Council Regular Meeting 03/28/2024
- 

#### Attachments:

1. TC2BGT Connector – Design Alternatives Evolution
- 

#### Executive Summary

The Department of Public Works (DPW) seeks Council's recommendation regarding options for the scope of work for the Town Center to Burke-Gilman Trail (TC2BGT) Connector 30% design contract. Specifically, staff seek to confirm whether the underpass (tunnel) alternative should be evaluated further, as currently planned, or if budget reserved for this work should be reallocated to support additional design development for the overpass (bridge) alternative. The impetus for this discussion emerged from environmental, public safety, and budget considerations connected to the implementation of an underpass, and the desire to allow our newly elected officials to weigh in on these considerations.

#### Background

The opportunity to improve safety and connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists traveling between the Town Center and Burke-Gilman Trail by means of a grade-separated crossing of SR 522 (Bothell Way NE) was first formally put forward in the 2018 Lake Forest Park Safe Highways Report. In that report, among non-motorized project ideas presented to the community, the creation of an overpass over SR 522 received widespread support.

In 2020, the City contracted with V+M Structural Design (V+M) to explore grade-separated crossings of SR 522 in a Type, Size, and Location (TS&L) Study. The study evaluated one underpass and two overpass pedestrian crossing concepts near the intersection of SR 522 and SR 104 linking Town Center to the Burke-Gilman Trail, the future Sound Transit BRT station, and Lake Forest Park's future

lakefront park. In their January 2021 TS&L report, V+M identified the mid-block bridge crossing concept illustrated in Attachment 1 as the highest-ranked design alternative. Considerations that were considered by V+M and stakeholders including the City Council included: design, connectivity, constructability, environmental considerations, right of way and utility impacts, cost, aesthetics, and user experience.

Later that year, King County Parks requested that the Burke-Gilman Trail grade remain unchanged in Lake Forest Park. As a result, DPW considered design concept modifications (see Attachment 1) and conducted a design charette with V+M and King County Parks in November 2021, though formal design updates were deferred to the project’s 30% design phase (“Phase 2”). DPW also worked with V+M to develop concept modifications to the underpass option (see Attachment 1) to address sight lines and public safety concerns.

We have recently executed a grant agreement with the Washington Department of Commerce to fund our Phase 2 contract with V+M. Given this contract’s limited budget and the critical importance of stakeholder acceptance of the proposed design, DPW staff would like to confirm the preferred contract scope of work with our elected officials before giving V+M notice to proceed.

**Fiscal & Policy Implications**

There are no fiscal implications to this recommendation as there would be no change to the V+M contract price or the Department of Commerce grant agreement.

**Alternatives**

<i>Options</i>	<i>Results</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proceed with the Phase 2 Contract Scope of Work as written.</li> </ul>	Carry out Phase 2A: 10% Design of Tunnel Option. Upon completion, select one option for Phase 2B: Light 30% Design of Tunnel Option OR 30% Design of Bridge Option.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modify the Phase 2 Contract Scope of Work to remove Phase 2A: 10% Design of Tunnel Option.</li> </ul>	Reallocate contract budget from Phase 2A into Phase 2B and proceed with the 30% Design of Bridge Option, allowing for a more robust deliverable.

**Staff Recommendation**

Consider options for the TC2BGT Connector Phase 2 Contract Scope of Work and provide DPW staff with a recommendation.