



AGENDA ITEM ANALYSIS

Project/Issue Name: 23-R-72 A Resolution of the City Council Expressing Support for the Proposed U.S. Bicycle Route 251 through the City Between Springfield and Northwest Arkansas and Requesting Designation of the Route as an Official U.S. Bike Route Recognized by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

Submitted By: Chris Tabor, BUILDS Department Principal Planner

Date: December 12, 2023

Issue Statement

Staff is requesting City Council provides a letter of support for Alternate Bike Route 251 to Missouri Department of Transportation.

Discussion and/or Analysis

The U.S. Bicycle Route System is a nationally recognized system for bicycle transportation and is sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). The program aims to create connectivity through bicycle travel routes throughout the nation. Currently, the U.S. Bicycle Route System is working through the approval process for Route 51, which is planned to connect New Orleans, Louisiana with Des Moines, Iowa.

USBR Alternative Route 251 connects Northwest Arkansas with the Springfield region and is a section of the larger USBR 51.

The Republic portion of Route 251 runs:

- West from Wilson's Creek Battlefield along Farm Road 182
- South at Lynn Avenue
- South at the intersection of Lynn Avenue and Farm Road 89
- West along County Line Road
- South on Beale Street

The expected length of the Republic portion of the route is approximately 5.34 miles.

Recommended Action

Staff is recommending provision of a letter of support.