



AGENDA REPORT

City Council Meeting

TODAY'S DATE: January 28, 2025

MEETING DATE: February 19, 2025

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Holly Ellis, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: LHTAC/Local Agreement for the 2024 Children Pedestrian Safety Program

BACKGROUND/ DESCRIPTION:

On January 3, 2018, the City Council authorized staff to apply for a grant to conduct a Road Safety Audit (RSA) along Division Avenue, identifying safety improvements for all users of Division Avenue from Hwy 2 to Spruce Street. On February 3, 2021, the City Council accepted the completed Division Avenue RSA (Resolution No. 21-0007), which informed the Multimodal Transportation Master Plan (MTMP), adopted on May 6, 2021 (Resolution No. 21-022). The MTMP's Capital Improvement priorities include the Division Avenue Corridor Improvement concept (Appendix A, Figures 18 and 19), designed to address RSA safety concerns and enhance pedestrian (especially children) and bicycle access to schools, community destinations, and neighborhoods.

On September 7, 2022, the City Council authorized acceptance of the Children Pedestrian Safety Program award to fund Phase 1 of the Division Avenue Corridor Improvement project. Construction of these improvements, located on the east side of Division Avenue between Superior Street and Highway 2, was completed in August 2023.

On November 15, 2023, the City Council approved staff's application for the 2024 Children Pedestrian Safety Program grant. Phase 2 will extend improvements along the east side of Division Avenue from Pine Street to Superior Street. This phase will include new sidewalks, ADA-compliant ramps, planter strips, curbs and gutters, and driveway approaches. The project will also narrow travel lanes on Division Avenue to provide traffic calming.

The full Division Avenue Corridor project is estimated to cost over \$10 million. 2024 Children Pedestrian Safety Program provides an opportunity to fund a portion of this larger initiative and continue the revitalization of Division Avenue's east side.

The Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC) administers the Children Pedestrian Safety Program using state and federal funds (American Rescue Plan Act) allocated by the Idaho Legislature. The program requires projects to be completed by August 31, 2026, with a maximum award of \$250,000 per jurisdiction. Grant funds cannot be used for development services fees, project match, education/outreach, or reimbursement of equipment or employee costs. No project match is required. The projects must comply with Davis-Bacon Wage, ADA, and Title VI requirements; however, Buy American Build America does not apply. LHTAC serves as the subrecipient of federal funding and will pay contractors directly.

If the LHTAC/Local Agreement for the 2024 Children Pedestrian Safety Program is approved, staff will host a public open house in March and present the project to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee. The request to bid the project will go to City Council for consideration in the spring. Construction is expected to occur when school is not in session and be completed before the start of the school year.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the LHTAC/Local Agreement for the 2024 Children Pedestrian Safety Program for the Division Avenue Corridor Improvement Phase 2 project is approved and authorize Mayor signature.

ACTION:

Move to approve the LHTAC/Local Agreement for the 2024 Children Pedestrian Safety Program for the Division Avenue Corridor Improvement Phase 2 project and authorize Mayor signature.

**WILL THERE BE ANY FINANCIAL IMPACT? YES HAS THIS ITEM BEEN BUDGETED? YES;
within FY25 budget.**

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Resolution
2. LHTAC/Local Agreement
3. LHTAC Memo on Award Procedures
4. LHTAC 2024 Children Pedestrian Safety Program Application Scores
5. Draft Division Avenue Corridor Improvement Phase 2 Plans