

May 26, 2021

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager

202102017

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – STBG and TA Grants Application

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

AUTHORIZING the City Manager to apply for grants from the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality programs, in an amount of up to \$6,000,000, and to apply for the Transportation Alternatives Grant from the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments in an amount of up to \$750,000, all for the timely completion of several transportation projects managed by the City's Department of Transportation & Engineering.

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for grants from the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) programs, in an amount of up to \$6,000,000, and for the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant from the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments in an amount of up to \$750,000, for the timely completion of several transportation projects managed by the City's Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE).

DOTE is considering several projects for the STBG and CMAQ funding, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Victory Parkway/Park Avenue Safety Improvement, including intersection improvements, bridge reconstruction, pedestrian improvements, and maintenance of existing streetlighting;
- Linn Street Safety Improvement, including reducing vehicular lanes, installing a bike facility, and pedestrian improvements;
- Ludlow Avenue Safety Improvement, including reducing vehicular lanes, installing a bike facility, and pedestrian improvements;
- Oasis Bike Trail, a 4.5-mile bike path running from the Sawyer Point boathouse to Carrel Street in the City's East End; and

DOTE is also considering the several projects for TA grant funding, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Dutch Colony Drive, including installing a missing sidewalk;
- Martin Luther King Drive Side Path Connection, including completing the connection from Wasson Way to Eden Avenue;
- Airport Road – Eastern Avenue to Wilmer Avenue, including sidewalk installation and potential removal of existing on-street parking; and

The STBG, CMAQ, and TA grant applications are due on June 4, 2021, and no funds will be accepted without approval of Council.

The grants require a 20% local match, which will be identified in future capital project funding if awarded. No new FTEs are required in association with these grants.

The rehabilitation and improvement of the City’s transportation infrastructure is in accordance with the “Connect” goal to “develop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood vitality,” as described on pages 129-138 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to authorize the City Manager to apply for the grants, as the application deadline is June 4, 2021.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Christopher A. Bigham, Assistant City Manager
Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachment

