



**CITY OF TYLER
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

Agenda Number: H-1

Date: April 26, 2006

Subject: Request that the City Council hold a public hearing on possible transportation enhancement projects that the City could apply for grants to fund and consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the grant applications to be filed and committing the matching funds.

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Item Reference: Safe, Accountable, Flexible and the Efficient-Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy of Users (SAFETEA-LU); Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP)

As part of the Federal highway reauthorization bill, known as Safe, Accountable, Flexible and the Efficient-Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy of Users (SAFETEA-LU), the Federal Highway Administration has set aside funding for enhancement projects. The Texas Department of Transportation has issued a project nominations call under its Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program. These enhancement projects are funded 80 percent federal and state and 20 percent local. Enhancement projects are for projects that enhance the quality of life around the transportation system. Traffic Engineering, Planning and Zoning, and Tyler Transit have come forward with four application proposals.

These projects are:

- Tyler Hike and Bike Trail Extension – to extend the Tyler Trail System from Grande to Faulkner Park. This project would include 4.4 miles of trail.

Total cost: \$ 3,774,737.00
City portion (20%): \$ 754,947.00

- Gentry Parkway Pedestrian Safety and Beautification Project – pedestrian safety and beautification upgrades to ten (10) intersections along Gentry Parkway.

Total cost: \$ 1,314,192.00
City portion (20%): \$ 262,838.00

- Tyler Transit Cotton Belt Depot Train Museum Expansion Project – Expand current museum and add a possible transfer station

Total cost: \$ 1,200,000.00
City portion (20%): \$ 240,000.00

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- Gateway project – Add gateway signage to U. S. 69 North to welcome visitors

Total cost:	\$	50,000.00
City portion (20%):	\$	10,000.00

Total cost of 4 projects:	\$	6,338,929.00
City portion of 4 projects (20%):	\$	1,267,785.00

In order to apply for grants to fund these projects, the City must hold a public hearing and adopt a Resolution authorizing the applications and committing the local match funds if the funds are approved for the City of Tyler.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the applications of the Tyler Hike and Bike Trail Extension Project, the Gentry Parkway Pedestrian Safety and Beautification Project, the Tyler Transit Cotton Belt Depot Train Museum Expansion Project, and Gateway Signage for U.S. 69 North, for the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP) of the Texas Department of Transportation, and committing matching funds.

Drafted/Recommended By:
Department Leader



Kirk Houser, P.E., Traffic Engineer

Edited/Submitted By:
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. R-2006-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATIONS OF THE TYLER HIKE/BIKE TRAIL EXTENSION PROJECT, THE GENTRY PARKWAY PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT, THE TYLER TRANSIT COTTON BELT DEPOT TRAIN MUSEUM EXPANSION PROJECT, AND GATEWAY SIGNAGE FOR U.S. 69 NORTH, FOR THE STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP) OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMITTING MATCHING FUNDS.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council to protect the public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, has called for project nominations for the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP) starting November 1, 2005 and ending on April 28, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Transportation enhancements are provided under the federal transportation legislation, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient-Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); and

WHEREAS, the STEP program includes transportation-related activities that contribute to the livelihood of communities, promote the quality of the environment and enhance the aesthetics of roadways; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the STEP program is to encourage diverse modes of travel, increase the community benefits to transportation investment, strengthen partnerships between State and local governments, and promote citizen involvement in transportation decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation has federal funds available, in the form of 80% federal funding with 20% local matching funds, through the Transportation Enhancement Program for the purpose of cities with transportation related projects; and

WHEREAS, all projects must demonstrate a relationship to the surface transportation system through either function or impact, go beyond standard transportation activities, and incorporate one of the 12 categories established for the STEP program; and

WHEREAS, one of the categories established for the STEP program is the provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles; and

WHEREAS, one of the categories established for the STEP program is the provision of safety and education activities for pedestrian and bicyclist; and

WHEREAS, one of the categories established for the STEP program is the rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities, including historic railroad facilities and canals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tyler is committed to the Tyler Hike/Bike Trail Extension project, which includes extending the Hike and Bike Trail Extension Trail from Grande to Faulkner Park; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tyler is committed to the Gentry Parkway Pedestrian Safety and Beautification Project, which includes making pedestrian safety improvements to ten intersections along Gentry Parkway; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tyler is committed to the Tyler Transit Cotton Belt Depot Train Museum Expansion Project, which includes rehabilitation of three (3) period buildings into additional exhibit and meeting and possible transfer station; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tyler is committed to gateway signage for U.S. 69 North;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS:

PART 1: That the City Council hereby authorizes the submission of the Tyler Hike/Bike Trail Extension Project application for the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP), commits to provide 20 percent (20%) of the required project matching funds (estimated to be \$754,947.00), and respectfully requests funding for the project by the Texas Transportation Commission.

PART 2: That the City Council hereby authorizes the submission of the Gentry Parkway Pedestrian and Beautification Project application for the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP), commits to provide 20 percent (20%) of the required project matching funds (estimated to be \$262,838.00), and respectfully requests funding for the project by the Texas Transportation Commission.

PART 3: That the City Council hereby authorizes the submission of the Tyler Transit Cotton Belt Depot Train Museum Expansion Project application for the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP), commits to provide 20 percent (20%) of the required project matching funds (estimated to be \$240,000), and respectfully requests funding for the project by the Texas Transportation Commission.

PART 4: That the City Council hereby authorizes the submission of the application for Gateway Signage for U.S. 69 North for the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP), commits to provide 20 percent (20%) of the required project matching funds (estimated to be \$10,000.00), and respectfully requests funding for the project by the Texas Transportation Commission.

PART 5: That this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this 26th day of April, 2006.

JOSEPH O. SEEBER, MAYOR
OF THE CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS

A T T E S T:

APPROVED:

CASSANDRA BRAGER, CITY CLERK

CITY ATTORNEY