

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

AGENDA DATE: February 28, 2023

CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Omar Martinez, (915) 479-0341
Elizabeth Triggs, (915) 212-0094

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: ALL

STRATEGIC GOAL: No. 1: Create an Environment Conducive to Strong, Sustainable Economic Development

SUBGOAL: 1.5 Stimulate economic growth through transit and bridges integration

SUBJECT:

Discussion and action requesting City Council support for the staff recommended project "Bike Plan – BRIO First-Last Mile Update" for submission to the FY23 Areas of Persistent Poverty (AOPP) federal discretionary grant program administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and intended to improve transit service in an Area of Persistent Poverty or Historically Disadvantaged Community.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

On January 9, 2023, the FTA opened applications for \$20 million in grant funding through the Areas of Persistent Poverty (AOPP) discretionary grant program for 2023. The deadline for applications is March 10, 2023.

The proposed application requests \$360,000 for the "Bike Plan – BRIO First-Last Mile Update" project. This AOPP grant, upon award, will allow the City to evaluate connectivity options with the Sun Metro BRIO Transit System and provide recommendations for cycling, traffic, safety, and capacity infrastructure improvements.

If awarded, this funding would actively seek solutions that begin to reverse the disproportional impacts of vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle accidents among people of color, specifically among El Paso's majority Hispanic and Latino communities, and would look to expand zero emissions modes of transportation – walking, bicycling, and transit, as real alternatives as people consider transportation options to learn, work, heal, and play. The proposed Bike Plan update will also focus on prioritizing cycling infrastructure investments for user safety, equity, and quality of life and will inform investments in targeted redevelopment areas and be used to strengthen cycling and multimodal infrastructure grant funding applications.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

10% required local match of \$40,000 from General Fund

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? YES NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Economic and International Development

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: Capital Improvements Department

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



Elizabeth Triggs, Director, Economic and International Development