

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

AGENDA DATE: September 24, 2024

CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Omar Martinez (915) 479-0341
Joaquin Rodriguez (915) 212-0065
Karina Brasgalla (915) 212-0094

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL: No 1: Cultivate an Environment Conducive to Strong, Economic Development

SUBJECT:

Discussion and action on a Resolution providing a \$750,000.00 match for the EPMPO I-10 Deck Plaza Design Project

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

The El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is applying for \$5,000,000.00 in federal funds from the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Fiscal Year 2024 Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Discretionary Grant Program. The El Paso MPO is requesting \$750,000.00 in matching funds to include as part of the grant application for the I-10 Deck Plaza Design Project. Impact Fund was identified as a potential funding source for matching funds for this project.

In 2024, the City of El Paso Capital Improvement Department (CID) completed a Feasibility Study for the I-10 Downtown Deck Plaza project. The City of El Paso submitted a grant application to the Fiscal Year 2023 RCP program for the I-10 Deck Plaza Design Project. The application was scored "Highly Recommended" by FHWA reviewers but was not selected for funding. The El Paso MPO requested to work with the City of El Paso to resubmit the application for Fiscal Year 2024.

The proposed RCP grant application will complete the next stage of design work and cost estimation for the project. Construction projects proposed for the RCP program require a 50% match, with the option to utilize other USDOT funds for an additional 30% federal contribution. On August 23, 2024, the El Paso MPO Transportation Policy Board (TPB) authorized allocating \$3.75 million (30%) in federal transportation funds to include as part of the grant application. On August 26, 2024, the El Paso County Commissioners Court approved a \$1 million in matching funds for the grant application.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

The City of El Paso received a \$900,000 grant from the FHWA Fiscal Year 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program matched by \$421,785 from the Paso del Norte Community Foundation for the I-10 Deck Plaza Feasibility Study. On November 22, 2024, the City Council approved a professional services contract for the Deck Plaza Feasibility Study Urban Planning and Engineering Services project.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

\$750,000.00 from the Impact Fund

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? YES NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Economic and International Development

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: Capital Improvement

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF EL PASO:

That \$750,000 be allocated to the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Fiscal Year 2024 Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Discretionary Grant Program Application for the I-10 Deck Plaza Design Project (Project) from the Impact Fund; and

That the City Manager or designee is authorized to establish future funding sources and make any budget transfers necessary for the City’s continued participation in the Project.

That the City Manager or designee be authorized to execute and all documents required to effectuate the City’s participation in the Project.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

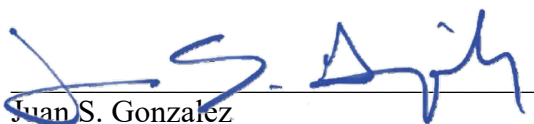
CITY OF EL PASO:

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Juan S. Gonzalez
Senior Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Karina Brasgalla, Interim Director
Economic & International Development