

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

AGENDA DATE: September 27, 2022
PUBLIC HEARING DATE: N/A

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DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

STRATEGIC GOAL: Goal 6. Set the standard for sound governance and fiscal management

SUBGOAL: Subgoal 6.4. Implement leading-edge practices for achieving quality and performance excellence

SUBJECT:
Presentation and discussion on the Grants and Strategic Initiatives Program.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

On November 15, 2021, President Biden enacted the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, a nearly \$1 trillion act containing an estimated \$550 billion in new spending above baseline levels to invest in all modes of transportation, water, power and energy, environmental remediation, public lands, broadband, and resilience. Approximately \$284 billion (or 52 percent) of the \$550 billion in new investments is directed toward modernizing and making improvements across all modes of transportation over the next five years (from FY22 through FY26). In addition to funding 25 competitive infrastructure funding opportunities available to local governments, the law further significantly increased the amount of non-competitive formula funding that will flow first to states and then on to cities and local governments.

Cities can access the law's funds in three general ways: 1) competitively, through federal grant programs, such as Rebuilding American Infrastructure Sustainably and Equitably and Infrastructure for Rebuilding America, and competitive processes run by state departments of transportation; 2) suballocations based on population from state departments of transportation, such as the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program; and 3) federal formulas, like transit formulas and the formula (entitlement) component of the Airport Improvement Program.

Following enactment of the bill, the City of El Paso established a Grants and Strategic Initiatives Program, led by Economic and International Development, Capital Improvements, International Bridges, the El Paso International Airport, and Streets and Maintenance to coordinate across City departments and with local stakeholders, including the El Paso Mobility Coalition, the Paso del Norte Health Foundation / Paso del Norte Community Foundation, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization, among others to prioritize our community's capital needs and develop a project pipeline. Those projects are then matched to federal funding streams made possible through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and other federal legislative actions, such as the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022.

The purpose of this presentation is to share information about the City's Grants and Strategic Initiatives Program, including submitted applications, secured awards, and the development of an aligned and integrated local strategy to pursue our community's priorities using the Communities of Excellence framework to partner with other local stakeholders.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:
N/A

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:
N/A

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? YES NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Economic and International Development

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: Capital Improvement Department

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

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



Elizabeth Triggs, Director
Economic and International Development