
Council Meeting Date: September 24, 2001

Agenda Item: 7(e)

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Authorize the City Manager to execute funding agreements with the Washington State Department of Transportation and with King County to receive funding for the Aurora Corridor Project.
DEPARTMENT:	Public Works
PRESENTED BY:	William L. Conner, Public Works Director Anne Tonella-Howe, Aurora Corridor Project Manager

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT: The City continues to pursue funding for capital projects, and has been successful in obtaining \$6.4 million in additional grant funding for the Aurora Corridor Project through our project partners. The City must execute intergovernmental agreements with our funding partners, one with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), and one with King County Transit, in order to receive this funding. Prior Council action is required before execution of these agreements by the City Manager or his designee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Acceptance of these funds increases revenues for the project and will add a total of \$6.4 million to the project. The increase in revenues will be reflected in the budget for the project and presented to Council for approval during the upcoming budget process this fall.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council authorize the City Manager to execute funding agreements with the Washington State Department of Transportation and with King County to receive funding for the Aurora Corridor Project.

Approved By:

City Manager

 City Attorney 

INTRODUCTION

The City has been successful in obtaining additional funding for the Aurora Corridor Project through grant funding opportunities and our project partners. Most recently the City has received funding through an appropriation made possible by Congressman Jay Inslee and through our project partnership with King County Metro Transit. Intergovernmental agreements with these funding partners must be executed in order for the City to receive this funding. Council action is required prior to execution of these agreements by the City Manager.

BACKGROUND

Council goals for 2000 – 2001 includes the advancement of the Capital Improvement Program with particular emphasis on the Aurora Project. Council adopted resolution #156 on August 23, 1999, which includes acceptance of the Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF) that supports this goal. The CATF recommendation made up of 32 points supports strategies to fund the project including working with transit agencies to seek capital investments to support the project, and to develop partnerships with WSDOT and King County to jointly fund the project.

Last year, the project successfully competed with other project requests securing \$10,775 million through the Statewide STP Competitive Program. This funding does require a city match, which was budgeted into the project during last year's CIP update.

Through efforts of Congressman Jay Inslee \$5.9 million of federal money is now available for the Aurora Project. These funds are available with no City match required. A funding agreement with WSDOT is required to secure this money.

One of the Aurora Project goals is to increase transit service. Staff has been working with King County to obtain \$500,000 to be used towards transit improvements on Aurora Avenue. A funding agreement with King County is required to secure this money. Key elements of this funding agreement include:

- No City match
- City must adopt restrictions on the use of the Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes for transit vehicles or vehicles accessing businesses between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- If BAT restriction is removed anytime within the first fifteen years the City will be required to refund the unamortized portion of the County's grant

The construction of the BAT lane for use by transit vehicles and vehicles accessing businesses will provide a facility expected to enhance transit speed, reliability and passenger access. Staff will develop the required BAT use restrictions for Council consideration in advance of project completion.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council authorize the City Manager to execute funding agreements with the Washington State Department of Transportation and with King County to receive funding for the Aurora Corridor Project.