



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-5035

Community Planning & Development Services

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Nate Vander Broek, Planner I

DATE: August 28, 2013

RE: **No. 13TP042 - Authorization for three Transportation Alternatives Program Grant Submissions to the South Dakota Department of Transportation and Receipt of Funds and associated contracts if awarded to construct greenway path crossing improvements, pedestrian crossing/intersection improvements and to construct a portion of the rails-to-trails Rapid City segment**

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides communities across the State of South Dakota an opportunity to compete for grant funds that will enhance the intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options throughout the community. The City of Rapid City is looking to fund three different non-motorized bike path, intersection and rail trail segments to expand its existing transportation system.

Project 1: Bicycle/Pedestrian Crossing Improvements. Project 1 proposes safety improvement to seven bicycle/pedestrian crossings along the Leonard "Swanny" Swanson Memorial Pathway. These improvements include conversion of continuously flashing warning beacons to either pedestrian-activated beacon systems or rectangular rapid flashing beacon systems. Other updates include new ADA ramps, signs, pavement markings and road narrowing improvements at one location. A map of the locations is included for reference.

Project 2: Mako-Sica Trail Project. Project 2 proposes a bicycle and pedestrian facility improvement project that will connect Rapid City's Bike Path to Western Dakota Tech and the public library located at the school. This project will complete the first phase of the proposed rails-to-trails project utilizing the rail banked railroad right-of-way from Rapid City east to Kadoka. The connection to Western Dakota Tech will be made by adding a section of a ten-foot side path along Cambell Street,



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Kennel Drive and Centre Street, and by converting a section of rail-banked railroad corridor into a ten-foot wide recreational trail between Cambell and Kennel Drive. A map of the locations is included for reference.

Project 3: Pedestrian Intersection Improvements. Project 3 proposes intersection improvements for pedestrian safety at three locations along Omaha Street (East Highway 44) at Cambell Street, Creek Drive and Mickelson Drive. These improvements include signal upgrades and ADA accessible ramp/crossing improvements. A map of the locations is included for reference.

At the June 17, 2013 City Council meeting, Council acknowledged a Feasibility Study for the installation of sidewalks on both sides of East Highway 44 from La Crosse Street to Western Dakota Technical Institute and authorized staff to locate grant funding for the construction of the sidewalks along East Highway 44. The Council has also required various property owners throughout the community to install sidewalks at the property owners' expense (Disk Drive, St. Patrick Street). For consistency to these property owners, the current grant application includes only those City costs required to make the sidewalk connections to the street intersections. Staff recommends Council require the property owners along East Highway 44 to construct the sidewalk to ensure fair treatment to community property owners.

The TAP Program requires an 18.05% minimum local match, but encourages each community to identify in-kind services as well as financial contributions to increase the local match participation. The City of Rapid City has identified at least 28% in local match, both in funding and in-kind services through Engineering Design and Construction Engineering. The proposed projects throughout Rapid City are as follows:

Project Description	Federal Share	Sponsor Share/ Local Match	Project Total
Greenway Path Crossing Improvements	\$124,943	\$48,864	\$173,807
Mako-Sica Trail Project and connection to Western Dakota Tech	\$400,000	\$198,913	\$598,913
Intersection improvements along Omaha Street at Cambell Street, Creek Drive and Mickelson Drive	\$179,224	\$83,215	\$262,439
Total	\$704,167	\$330,992	\$1,035,159

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests authorization to submit and sign the three Letters of Intent and associated applications for FY2014 Transportation Alternatives Grant Program and authorize the Mayor and Finance Officer to accept the grants if awarded, with the total project costs in the amount of \$1,035,159, allowing minor

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language and cost adjustments to the applications to reflect suggestions from SDDOT after the mandatory site review.