



**TO:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
**FROM:** Ian Munce AICP, Special Assistant to the Director, Planning and Development Services  
Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution Authorizing a Hilltop Links to Opportunity Initiative-The Requested City  
Council Date is April 5, 2016  
**DATE:** March 18, 2016

**SUMMARY:**

Planning and Development Services requests a Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$2 million grant from the Federal Transit Administration, a grant that will be passed through to the City by Sound Transit, and establishing this effort as a special project of limited duration.

**COUNCIL SPONSORS:**

Council Members Woodards and Blocker.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITIES:**

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Foster a vibrant and diverse economy with good jobs for all Tacoma residents.
- Encourage thriving residents with abundant opportunities for life-long learning.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Hilltop Sub-Area Plan focuses on maximizing the benefits of Sound Transit’s Tacoma Link Expansion Project. Benefits are described in this Plan not only in terms of facilitating Downtown revitalization, increased transit ridership, and new transit-orientated developments, but also in terms of linking Hilltop residents to new opportunities and avoiding displacement. In support of this planning initiative, the Federal Transit Administration has awarded grant funding in the amount of \$2 million to Sound Transit for the purpose of funding the City’s Project to advance these Plan objectives. This grant seeks to engage the Hilltop community both in the design and engineering of a new streetscape for the streets that need rebuilding and in creating new opportunities for success for local residents and businesses. A City cash match of \$480,000 from various sources is shown in the Revenues section of the Fiscal Impact portion of this memo. An in-kind match of \$20,000 from Tacoma Power will be available for project management.

**ISSUE:**

The issue is whether or not this is the right time to pursue this grant opportunity.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative would be to defer this opportunity until a later time, presumably after the LINK Expansion is complete, and the streetscape can be tailored to the development patterns that emerge. However, if this outreach, design, and engineering work is done now, the City will be well positioned to secure capital in the 2018 round of federal transportation funding for streetscape construction that will align with the opening of LINK Extension.



**RECOMMENDATION:**

City Council authorize Planning and Development Services to accept a \$2 million grant from the Federal Transit Administration, as well as a grant match of \$480,000, for outreach, design, and engineering work in order that the City will be well positioned to secure capital in the 2018 round of federal transportation funding for streetscape construction that will align with the opening of Sound Transit’s Tacoma Link Expansion Project. Additionally, this work is to be done in such a way as to create new opportunities for success for local residents and businesses. The effort will be designated a special project of limited duration, and approximately 1.5 FTE employees will be required to support this special project. The salaries and classes set forth in the Compensation Plan for regular City employees shall be applied and the positions will include streetscape design management and outreach coordination. The employees will be reimbursed by grant funds and will receive benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Compensation Plan of the City of Tacoma including the opportunity to participate in the City’s retirement system. These positions are temporary in nature, are for project management activities, and pertain only to this special project; persons employed in such positions will have no claim to further or continued employment with the City of Tacoma.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1195-BUILD PDS Planning Gt Fd	753200	various	\$2,480,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$2,480,000</b>

\* General Fund: Include Department

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
US Dept of Transportation-Federal Transit Admin	753200	4333241	\$2,000,000
PW LID Project Fund 1060-LID	PWK-8650R-FS-AD-02	6311000	\$260,000
Street Cap Projects Fund 1060-CAPTL	662000	6311000	\$170,000
Mental Health Fund 1185-MHCD	858200	6311000	\$25,000
General Fund 0010	094700	6311010	\$15,000
General Fund Non-Departmental 0010	653000	6311000	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$2,480,000</b>

**POTENTIAL POSITION IMPACT:**

POSITION TITLE	PERMANENT/ PROJECT TEMPORARY POSITION	FTE IMPACT	POSITION END DATE
PDS Streetscape Design Manager	Project	1.0	May, 2017
PDS Outreach Coordinator	Project	0.5	May, 2018
<b>TOTAL</b>		1.5 FTE	



*This section should only be completed if a subsequent request will be made to increase or decrease the current position count.*

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$2,480,000**

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? NOT IN FUND 1195-BUILD**

**IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED.**

Will need to request a \$2,480,000 appropriation in 1195-BUILD.