

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

July 7, 2015

City Council

STAFF

Rick Richter, Director of Infrastructure Services
Erika Keeton, Special Project Engineer

SUBJECT

Second Reading of Ordinance 070, 2015, Appropriating Prior Year Reserves in the General Fund for Transfer to the Capital Projects Fund for the Lincoln Corridor Improvements Project and Transferring Appropriations to the Cultural Services and Facilities Fund for the Art in Public Places Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance, adopted on First Reading on June 2, 2015, by a vote of 6-1 (Nays: Cunniff) appropriates the remaining funding for design, right of way acquisition and construction of the Lincoln Avenue Improvements from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue. The scope of the proposed improvements is based on the concepts approved in the *Lincoln Corridor Plan* with a reduced level of enhancement consistent with the proposed budget. Based on the *Lincoln Corridor Plan* estimated cost of \$19.3 million for the entire project from Jefferson to Lemay, the cost to improve the section from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue is \$8 million. With the reduced level of enhancements currently approved, the project is estimated to cost \$6.5 million. This Ordinance appropriates \$1,968,119 from General Fund Reserves.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on Second Reading.

ATTACHMENTS

1. First Reading Agenda Item Summary, June 2, 2015 (w/o attachments) (PDF)
2. Ordinance No. 070, 2015 (PDF)

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

June 2, 2015

City Council

STAFF

Rick Richter, Director of Infrastructure Services
Erika Keeton, Special Project Engineer

SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance 070, 2015, Appropriating Prior Year Reserves in the General Fund for Transfer to the Capital Projects Fund for the Lincoln Corridor Improvements Project and Transferring Appropriations to the Cultural Services and Facilities Fund for the Art in Public Places Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to appropriate the remaining funding for design, right of way acquisition and construction of the Lincoln Avenue Improvements from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue. The scope of the proposed improvements is based on the concepts approved in the *Lincoln Corridor Plan* with a reduced level of enhancement consistent with the proposed budget.

Based on the *Lincoln Corridor Plan* estimated cost of \$19.3 million for the entire project from Jefferson to Lemay, the cost to improve the section from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue is \$8 million. With the reduced level of enhancements currently approved, the project is estimated to cost \$6.5 million. This Council action would appropriate \$1,968,119 from General Fund Reserves.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

The Lincoln Corridor is unique. The Corridor is growing and already reflects an eclectic mix of existing uses, historic neighborhoods, retail, industrial, and natural areas-as well as a developing technology campus. In addition, this portion of Lincoln Avenue lacks basic infrastructure in many places and needs to be brought up to current City standards. Years ago Lincoln Avenue was a main entrance to downtown, and over the years it has declined in prominence.

City Plan (2011) identified the Lincoln Corridor as an important project and a gateway for the downtown and East Mulberry corridor area. In addition, *City Plan* recognized the potential for Lincoln to become a "Great Green Street" by developing a new road design to address context-sensitive solutions to connect with Downtown and surrounding areas. The Lincoln Corridor is also recognized as a priority gateway in the *Downtown Plan* (1989) and the adopted Streetscape Standards, which indicate where a standard arterial streetscape approach should apply and where other corridor segments and gateway intersections warrant their own tailored and more enhanced approach to streetscape design and management.

Based on this guidance, the new design for Lincoln Avenue in the *Lincoln Corridor Plan* seeks to provide an enhanced level of amenities and a design that restores its importance as a primary entry to the heart of the City as well as providing an important connection from Downtown to the east and northeast.

The *Lincoln Corridor Plan* (“the Plan”) was approved by City Council in 2014 (Resolution 2014-040). The Plan developed a vision and a preliminary multi-modal design for Lincoln Avenue between Jefferson Street and Lemay Avenue. On March 3, 2015, Ordinance No. 028, 2015, appropriated \$4,106,000 of General Fund Reserves and Street Oversizing Funds for this segment of the Lincoln Avenue Improvements. Including developer local street obligations and interim improvement savings, there still remains a funding gap of \$1,968,119 in the \$6.5 million budget.

This council action would appropriate the remaining funding for design, right of way acquisition and construction of the Lincoln Avenue Improvements from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The *Lincoln Corridor Plan* estimated the total cost of the Lincoln Avenue improvements to be \$19.3 million. This estimate includes Final Design, construction, and a planning-level contingency of 30% for the full project limits from Jefferson to Lemay and including replacement of the Poudre River Bridge. This equates to \$8 million for the section from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue.

The *Lincoln Corridor Plan* presents a design framework with the flexibility for refinement, scalability, and phasing during the Final Design process, including potential opportunities for cost savings. Based on this idea and feedback from Council that the project does not need to include the complete level of envisioned enhancements, the budget for this section was reduced to \$6.5 million with the understanding that the enhancements will be scaled back as needed to meet the budget.

Source	Amount
General Fund Reserves	\$ 3,000,000
Street Oversizing Fund	\$ 1,106,000
Previously committed Developer Local Street Obligations	\$ 155,881
Savings from Woodward Interim Improvements*	\$ 270,000
Unfunded	\$ 1,968,119
Total	\$ 6,500,000

*Requires Woodward Redevelopment Agreement Modification

BOARD / COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Board or Commission recommendations are not applicable to this council action. However, as a part of the *Lincoln Corridor Plan* process, the Transportation Board, Parks and Recreation Board and the Planning and Zoning Board all recommended that Council adopt the Plan.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The development of the *Lincoln Corridor Plan* included extensive public outreach including:

- 2 large public workshops
- Multiple open houses
- 3 online surveys
- Regular Boards/Commissions updates
- 3 Council Work Sessions
- 4 formal Stakeholder Group meetings
- Multiple small group/individual meetings

Since adoption of the Plan, the City has conducted additional public outreach consisting of an open house on January 12, 2015 and two different survey options - an online survey and a text survey.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Location map (PDF)
2. Powerpoint presentation (PDF)

COPY

ORDINANCE NO. 070, 2015
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
APPROPRIATING PRIOR YEAR RESERVES IN THE GENERAL FUND FOR TRANSFER
TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND FOR THE LINCOLN CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT AND TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS TO THE CULTURAL SERVICES
AND FACILITIES FUND FOR THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Corridor Plan (the “Plan”) was approved by City Council pursuant to Resolution 2014-040 and the Plan developed a vision and a preliminary multi-modal design for Lincoln Avenue between Jefferson Street and Lemay Avenue; and

WHEREAS, City Plan recognized the potential for Lincoln Avenue to become a “Great Green Street” by developing a new road design to address context-sensitive solutions to connect with Downtown and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Avenue corridor is also recognized as a priority gateway in the Downtown Plan (1989) and the City’s adopted streetscape standards; and

WHEREAS, at the level of enhancements currently approved, the Lincoln Corridor Improvements project from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue is estimated to cost \$6.5 million, of which \$4,106,000 was appropriated in March of this year with Ordinance No. 028-2015; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the \$4,106,000 that is already appropriated \$155,881 was previously committed from Developer local street obligations and \$270,000 in savings from Woodward interim improvements, which leaves a funding gap of \$1,968,119 to be funded from available General Fund Reserves; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance appropriates from the General Fund Reserves the remaining funding needed for the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the Lincoln Avenue Improvements from 1st Street to Lemay Avenue; and

WHEREAS, one percent of the appropriation for the construction project, net of right of way cost, (\$19,681) must be transferred to the Cultural Services and Facilities fund for a contribution to the Art in Public Places (APP) program, with \$15,351 reserved for the APP artwork project and \$4,330 reserved for the maintenance of the artwork and operations of the APP program; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 9 of the City Charter permits the City Council to appropriate by ordinance at any time during the fiscal year such funds for expenditure as may be available from reserves accumulated in prior years, notwithstanding that such reserves were not previously appropriated; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 10 of the City Charter authorizes the City Council to transfer by ordinance any unexpended and unencumbered appropriated amount or portion thereof from one fund (project) to another fund (project), provided that the purpose for which the transferred funds are to be expended remains unchanged.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That there is hereby appropriated from prior years reserves in the General Fund the amount of ONE MILLION NINE HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETEEN DOLLARS (\$1,968,119) and authorized for transfer to the Capital Projects Fund and appropriated therein for the Lincoln Corridor Improvements Project.

Section 2. That the unexpended appropriated amount of FIFTEEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$15,351) in the Capital Projects Fund - Lincoln Corridor Improvements Project is authorized for transfer to the Cultural Services and Facilities Fund and appropriated therein for the APP artwork project.

Section 3. That the unexpended appropriated amount of FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS (\$4,330) in the Capital Projects Fund - Lincoln Corridor Improvements Project is authorized for transfer to the Cultural Services and Facilities Fund and appropriated therein for the APP Program maintenance and operations.

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading, and ordered published this 2nd day of June, A.D. 2015, and to be presented for final passage on the 7th day of July, A.D. 2015.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Passed and adopted on final reading on the 7th day of July, A.D. 2015.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk