

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
FORT COLLINS CITY COUNCIL**

ITEM NUMBER: 8

DATE: November 4, 2003

STAFF: Kathleen Reavis

SUBJECT

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 141, 2003, Appropriating Revenue from the Colorado Department of Transportation in the Transportation Fund for the US 287/South College Avenue Bicycle Lane Project.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on Second Reading.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Fort Collins Transportation Planning office received a grant from CDOT Enhancement Funds for FY 2003-05 to construct on-street bicycle lanes on South College Avenue/US 287 from Harmony Road/SH68 southward to Carpenter Road/CR32. Ordinance No. 141, 2003, was unanimously adopted on First Reading on October 21, 2003.

ORDINANCE NO. 141, 2003
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
APPROPRIATING UNANTICIPATED REVENUE AND PRIOR YEAR RESERVES IN THE
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FUND TO BE USED TO CONSTRUCT ON-STREET
BIKE LANES ON SOUTH COLLEGE AVENUE SOUTH OF
HARMONY ROAD TO CARPENTER ROAD

WHEREAS, the US Highway 287/South College Avenue corridor is a heavily traveled four-lane arterial roadway and represents one of the fastest growing residential, commercial, educational, and employment corridors in the community; and

WHEREAS, this primary route, connecting Fort Collins and Loveland, has been identified through public planning processes of the City as well as the North Front Range Transportation & Air Quality Planning Council (MPO) as a critical link in the local and regional bicycle lane system; and

WHEREAS, adequate bicycle facilities along the US Highway 287/South College Avenue corridor do not exist, creating dangerous cycling conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has made available to the City of Fort Collins, Federal Enhancement Funds for FY 2003-2005 in the amount of \$228,000 to be used to construct the first phase of on-street bicycle lanes on the US Highway 287/South College Avenue, from Harmony Road southward to Carpenter Road (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the scope of the Project improvements will include using the existing 10-12' road shoulder area to provide of 8' bicycle lanes with 2' shoulders for those sections of the roadway without curb and gutter; an 8' wide bicycle lane for sections with curb and gutter; and signage; and

WHEREAS, local matching funds needed to cover the cost of the Phase I improvements and administrative costs associated with the Project, totaling \$57,000, have been identified and are available in the form of prior year reserves in the Transportation Service Fund; and

WHEREAS, the total contract with CDOT for constructing bicycle improvements on US Highway 287/South College Avenue, from Harmony Road south to Carpenter Road, is \$750,000, and CDOT is expected to provide additional Federal Enhancement Funds for Phase II, totaling \$372,000, in 2005, at which time the City's local match will be \$93,000; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution 2003-112, on October 21, 2003, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the CDOT for the receipt of Federal Enhancement Funds to be used to design and construct on-street bicycle lanes on US Highway 287/South College Avenue, from Harmony Road southward to Carpenter Road; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 9, of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins permits the City Council to make supplemental appropriations by ordinance at any time during the fiscal year, provided that the total amount of such supplemental appropriations, in combination with all previous

appropriations for that fiscal year, does not exceed the then current estimate of actual and anticipated revenues to be received during the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 10, of the 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, City staff has determined that the appropriation of the Federal Enhancement Funds from CDOT as described herein will not cause the total amount appropriated in the Transportation Services Fund budget to exceed the current estimate of actual and anticipated revenues to be received during any fiscal year; and

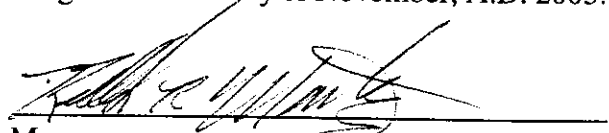
WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Council to appropriate the sum of \$228,000 in Federal Enhancement Funds from CDOT and \$57,000 in prior year reserves in the Transportation Services Fund for the purpose of designing and constructing on-street bicycle lanes on US Highway 287/South College Avenue, from Harmony Road southward to Carpenter Road.

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

Section 1. That there is hereby appropriated for expenditure from unanticipated revenue in the Transportation Services Fund - US Highway 287/South College Avenue Bicycle Improvements project, the sum of TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$228,000) from Colorado Department of Transportation Federal Enhancement Funds, for the purpose of designing and constructing on-street bicycle lanes on US Highway 287/South College Avenue, from Harmony Road southward to Carpenter Road.

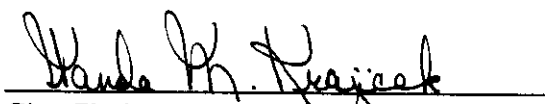
Section 2. That there is hereby appropriated from prior year reserves in the Transportation Services Fund, the sum of FIFTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$57,000) for the purpose of designing and constructing on-street bicycle lanes on US Highway 287/South College Avenue, from Harmony Road southward to Carpenter Road.

Introduced and considered favorably on first reading and ordered published this 21st day of October, A.D. 2003, and to be presented for final passage on the 4th day of November, A.D. 2003.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

Passed and adopted on final reading this 4th day of November, A.D. 2003.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

FORT COLLINS CITY COUNCIL

ITEM NUMBER: 16 A-B

DATE: October 21, 2003

STAFF: Kathleen Reavis

SUBJECT

Items Relating to Intergovernmental Agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation for the Design and Construction of Bike Lanes on College Avenue (US 287) from Harmony Road to Carpenter Road.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution and Ordinance on First Reading.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The total cost of this project is \$750,000 which is being funded from CDOT's Enhancement grant program. This contract is for the first two phases of the project (2003-04) for \$285,000. The remaining funding (\$465,000) will be provided by CDOT in 2005.

Federal funds (80%)	\$228,000
<u>City's Local Match (20%)</u>	<u>\$ 57,000</u>
Total project (2003-2004):	\$285,000

Transportation Planning is intending to use Transportation Reserves to cover the local match portion of this project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- A. Resolution 2003-112 Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation for the Design and Construction of Bike Lanes on College Avenue (US 287) from Harmony Road to Carpenter Road.
- B. First Reading of Ordinance No. 141, 2003, Appropriating Revenue from the Colorado Department of Transportation in the Transportation Fund for the US 287/South College Avenue Bicycle Lane Project.

The City of Fort Collins Transportation Planning office received a grant from CDOT Enhancement Funds for FY 2003-05 to construct on-street bicycle lanes on South College Avenue/US 287 from Harmony Road/SH68 southward to Carpenter Road/CR32.

This new commuter bikelane facility will greatly improve safety and connectivity for local as well as regional commuter cyclists. This primary route between Fort Collins and Loveland has been identified through the public planning process by the City of Fort Collins as well as the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) as a critical link in the local and regional bicycle lane system. Both the City of Fort Collins Bicycle Program Plan and the North Front Range Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan indicate the need for this project.

BACKGROUND:

The length of the US 287/South College Avenue bikelane project is 3 miles, along the corridor from Harmony Road on the north end to Carpenter Road on the south end. The design of the new bicycle lanes on South College/US 287 will be consistent with the design of the bicycle lanes on Harmony Road/SH68. This special design allows for using the existing 10-12' shoulder area to provide for 8' bicycle lanes with a 2' shoulders for the portions of the corridor without curb and gutter. Along the sections with curb and gutter, the bicycle lanes would be 8' wide. The signage would include the wording "right lane for bikes and emergency parking only" which is the same signage that was required by CDOT for the Harmony Road bicycle lanes. This design is consistent with, and in some cases exceeds, the minimum AASHTO bicycle requirements.

South College Avenue/US 287 is currently a four-lane arterial roadway through this corridor and carries approximately 35,000 vehicles per day, with posted speed limits of 45-55 mph. It currently serves many commuter cyclists and without the proposed improvements, provides a very hazardous cycling corridor. The traffic projections for this corridor are 45,000 vehicles per day in 2025. By improving this corridor with the addition of formal (striped & signed) bikelanes, the City of Fort Collins, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and the North Front Range MPO will be able to improve the cycling conditions and safety for this important commuter cycling route which will increase the viability and attractiveness of non-motorized trips. In addition to great safety benefits, this project will lead to fewer automobile trips, less traffic congestion, and improved air quality for our community and the region.

The US 287/South College Avenue bikelane project will connect into a growing system of bikeways along the adjacent City roadways and State Highways. It will provide a continuous bikelane link to the existing bikelanes on Harmony Road/SH68 as well as link to the local street bikeways (existing and planned) on Fossil Creek Parkway, Skyway Drive, Trilby Road, Carpenter Road, and to the Fossil Creek regional off-road trail system that will intersect with South College Avenue near Fossil Creek Parkway/Cameron Drive. The new US 287/South College bikelanes will also provide connectivity to the Mason Transportation Corridor trail system where cyclists will be able to continue northward into the South College commercial/employment corridor, and up to Colorado State University.

These new bikelanes would also provide access for cyclists to the existing FoxTrot transit service on South College from Loveland to Fort Collins. Cyclists will be able to ride along South College to access the transit stops and then the buses are equipped with bike racks for their use.

Through these existing and future bikeway connections, the bikelanes on South College will serve one of the fastest growing residential, commercial, educational, and employment corridors in our community as well as serve cyclists traveling to/from Fort Collins from Loveland. The design of the South College bikelanes will serve all levels of cyclists from recreational riders through advanced commuter cyclists and provide the critical missing link in the bikeway system for south Fort Collins.

The construction of the US 287/South College Avenue bikelane project will be phased based upon the available funding levels from the Enhancement program. Design work will begin in winter 2003 and be completed by summer 2004. Construction on the first phase will begin in fall 2004 and then be completed in 2005 along with the final phase of the project. During the design process, the City and CDOT will determine which segments of the project will be built in each phase.

This project will provide critical safety improvements and help achieve the City of Fort Collins and regional goals of increased use of alternative modes, reduced traffic congestion, and improved safety and air quality benefits. This projects is consistent with the City's adopted Master Transportation Plan, Bicycle Program Plan, Pedestrian Plan, Master Street Plan, Transfort Strategic Plan, Mason Transportation Corridor Master Plan, South College Access Plan, and the goals of the Land Use, Transportation, & Air Quality Committee.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Map of project area