



# Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP) Call for Projects

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Council Transportation and Environment  
Committee

Prepared by

Public Works and Transportation

Transportation Programs – Interagency Coordination

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# Purpose of Briefing

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- Review the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP) and staff recommendations for the current call for projects
- Discuss schedule for approval and submission of projects



# Background

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- SAFETEA–LU was authorized on August 10, 2005 – retains the Enhancement Program initiated in ISTEA and TEA–21
- 10% of Surface Transportation Program funds are set aside for Enhancements
- STEP Funding level has not been released by TxDOT
- Project will be 80% federal and 20% local funding
- Projects must be submitted thru NCTCOG



# Eligible Project Categories

2005 STEP Call for Projects

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- Bicycle and pedestrian
- Restoration/operation of historic trolley
- Restoration/operation of historic transit station
- Acquisition of historic RR right of way
- Landscaping transportation facilities
- Visitor center
- Control or removal of outdoor advertising



# Project Recommendations

Basis for Staff Recommendations for 2005 Call for Projects

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- Submit projects with congressional earmarks
- Submit trail projects submitted to Dallas County in their last MCIP call for projects and request a letter of support from Dallas County
- Submit removal of outdoor advertising (billboards) projects for current TxDOT projects



# Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – Congressional Earmark

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- Woodall Rodgers pedestrian deck received a \$10 million Congressional earmark for STEP funding
- \$8 million STEP funds / \$2 million local funds
- Local match could come from public or private funds
- STEP application must still be submitted



# Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – Congressional Earmark

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- East Dallas Veloway grade separated crossing of DART's Southeast LRT line received an \$800,000 Congressional earmark
- Federal funding is not sufficient to complete the crossing
- Submit STEP application to address the shortfall



# Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – 12-foot Wide Trail

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- Runyon Creek Greenbelt Trail - Wagon Wheels to UNT Campus
- Scyene Trail - Jim Miller near Piedmont to Prairie Creek Road at UP Railroad
- Chalk Hill Trail - Pinnacle Park to Westmoreland at Illinois
- Cottonbelt Trail – Dallas North Tollway to Hillcrest



# Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – 12-foot Wide Trail

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- East Dallas Veloway Phase 3 - Lakewood Blvd to DART LRT near Mockingbird & Fisher
- East Dallas Veloway Phase 4 - Northwest Highway to White Rock Creek North of Royal
- Lake Highlands Trail - White Rock Creek at Skillman to Lake Highlands High School
- Northaven Trail Phase 1 - Dallas North Tollway to US 75



# Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – Outdoor Advertising Removal

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- TxDOT requires City to pay additional cost associated with billboard removal resulting from application of more stringent City ordinances
- Submit STEP applications for projects where TxDOT is actively involved in right of way acquisition:
  - I-35E from I-635 to Loop 12
  - Loop 12 Interchange at I-30



# Estimated Schedule

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- TXDOT issued Call for projects 11/1/05
- Council Resolution 2/8/06
- Nominations due to NCTCOG 2/17/06
- Evaluation/ranking by NCTCOG 3/7/06
- RTC action on evaluations 4/13/06
- Nominations due to TXDOT 4/28/06
- Project selection by TXDOT 12/06