



Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP) Call for Projects

Council Transportation and Environment
Committee

Prepared by
Public Works and Transportation
Transportation Programs
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Purpose of Briefing

- 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

- 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

- 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

- Consider giving high priority for projects with legislative earmarks
- Review trail projects with Parks and Trinity Office to identify trail projects that are well-developed and can be implemented within three years of selection
- Submit removal of outdoor advertising (billboards) projects for current TxDOT projects



Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – State Legislative Earmark

- Woodall Rodgers pedestrian deck received a \$10 million state legislative earmark for STEP funding
- \$10 million STEP funds / \$2.5 million local funds required for local match
- Local match could come from public or private funds
- STEP application must still be submitted



Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – 12-foot Wide Trails

- Trinity Strand Trail (Old Trinity Trail) adjacent to the Old Trinity Meanders between Stemmons and the Trinity levee
- Trinity Forest Trail – DART Lake June LRT station to Equestrian Center, Interpretive Center and McCommas Bluff Park
- Chalk Hill Trail - Pinnacle Park to Westmoreland at Illinois



Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – 12-foot Wide Trails

- East Dallas Veloway – Lakewood Blvd to DART LRT near Mockingbird and Northwest Highway to Greenville
- Elm Fork Trail – Connections into Elm Fork Greenbelt between Royal and California Crossing
- Five Mile Creek Greenbelt Trail – Glendale Park eastward through Paul Quinn College



Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – Restoration of Historic Transit Station

- Fair Park DART LRT Station – Parry Avenue Gate Restoration
- DART SE LRT line to Fair Park scheduled to open in 2009
- Encourage integration of bicycle, pedestrian, bus and rail transit use at the Fair Park Entrance



Project Recommendations

2005 STEP Call for Projects – Outdoor Advertising Removal

- 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



Project Ranking

Project Ranking is Shown in Attached Project Summaries

- TxDOT requires cities and NCTCOG to provide project ranking with applications
- Interdepartmental staff committee reviewed projects and ranked them – see attachment
- Criteria:
 - Legislative earmark
 - Established City priority
 - Level of project development
 - Likelihood of project selection



Estimated Schedule

- 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