

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 04/22/25 M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0374

LOG NAME: 20SOUTHEAST DOWNTOWN PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

SUBJECT

(CD 9 and CD 11) Authorize Acceptance of a Donation from the Fort Worth Local Development Corporation in the Amount of \$765,000.00, Authorize Execution of a Professional Services Agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. in the Amount of \$940,000.00 for the Southeast Downtown Fort Worth Project Development Support, Authorize Execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Arlington in an Amount Up to \$183,750.00 for a High Speed Rail Economic Impact Analysis, Adopt Appropriation Ordinance, and Amend the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Program

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize Acceptance of a Donation in the amount of \$765,000.00 from the Fort Worth Local Development Corporation for the Southeast Downtown Fort Worth Project;
2. Authorize Execution of a Professional Services Agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. in the Amount of \$940,000.00, for the Southeast Downtown Project Development Support;
3. Authorize Execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Arlington in an Amount Up to \$183,750.00 for inclusion with the High-Speed Rail Economic Impact Analysis;
4. Adopt an appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Developer Contribution Fund, in the amount of \$765,000.00, from future revenues within Developer Cash Contributions, for the purpose of funding the Southeast Downtown Project Development Support (City Project No. 103807); and
5. Amend the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Program.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to accept a contribution from the Local Development Corporation and authorize execution of an agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) in the amount of \$765,000.00 for Southeast Downtown Project Support and to authorize execution of an interlocal agreement with the City of Arlington for a joint high-speed rail economic impact analysis.

Southeast Downtown Project Development Support

On August 8, 2023, AECOM was selected for the Access Butler Place Plan, which focuses on increasing the access points to Bulter Place from downtown and surrounding neighborhoods (M&C 23-0637, CSO 61088).

On October 15, 2024, the Connecting the Core amendment was executed to expand the study of the transportation infrastructure needs of Downtown Fort Worth and surrounding areas (M&C 24 -0919, CSO 61088-A1).

On February 25, 2025, the Local Development Corporation (LDC) approved a resolution that authorized the transfer of \$765,000.00 from the LDC to the City for the purposes of engaging AECOM for work on the Southeast Downtown Project Support project (Resolution FWLDC-2025-03).

Projects like Texas A&M expansion, the Fort Worth Convention Center expansion, Bulter Place redevelopment, and Fort Worth to Houston High-Speed Rail will all have a profound impact on Downtown Fort Worth. This includes the City of Fort Worth portion of the High-Speed Rail Economic Impact Analysis and will coordinate the required infrastructure for the Southeast Downtown area. AECOM will work with the City of Fort Worth and developers to determine future parking needs, conduct fiscal analysis, provide funding schemes, provide grant writing support, and complete pre-engineering.

Regional High-Speed Rail Economic Development Analysis

The City of Dallas is advancing its own economic analysis for high-speed rail, whereas the cities of Fort Worth and Arlington have agreed to partner in a joint study. The study scope analyzes the economic impact of constructing high-speed rail and its impact on property owners, local businesses, and other factors. Fort Worth and Arlington will pay for their portions of the joint study.

Once approved by the City of Arlington City Council and the Interlocal Agreement is executed, the City of Arlington will pay to the City of Fort Worth \$183,750.00 which will be appropriated to the Connecting the Core project through an M&C that will be submitted at a later date. 5% of the agreed upon funding will be for indirect costs for the City of Fort Worth staff review.

Appropriations for the Southeast Downtown project support are below.

Fund Number	Fund Name	M&C	Amount
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30104	Developer Contribution (LDC)	This M&C	\$765,000.00
30106	Intergovernmental Contribution Fund Future M&C		\$183,750.00
Project Total			\$948,750.00

The Transportation and Public Works Department is responsible for the billing and collection of these funds.

The Business Equity Division placed a 12.60% business equity goal on this solicitation/contract. AECOM Technical Services, Inc., will exceed the goal at 13.66%, meeting the City’s Business Equity Ordinance. Any changes in subcontractors will be reviewed by the Business Equity Division.

This is a donation from the Local Development Corporation and no match or other financial commitment is required as part of this scope.

The interlocal agreement with the City of Arlington is set for reimbursement.

This is located in COUNCIL DISTRICTS 9, and 11.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a publicly-traded business entity or a wholly-owned subsidiary of a publicly-traded business entity: AECOM Technical Services Inc.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the Developer Contribution Fund within ARPA Butler Place Access-Dev P project. The Transportation and Public Works Department (and Financial Management Services) is responsible for the collection and deposit of funds. Prior to any expense being incurred, the Transportation and Public Works Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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Expedited