

# STAFF MEMO

**DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING: May 10, 2021 / AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Jay N. Hutchison, Director of Public Works, 303-987-7901

Subject: **WADSWORTH BOULEVARD AND MORRISON ROAD INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR GRANTS**

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** This resolution would authorize the City Manager to enter into an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) and an anticipated IGA amendment with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for two grants to fund improvements along Wadsworth Boulevard between approximately Vassar Avenue and Woodard Avenue.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Currently the eastside of Wadsworth Boulevard along the former Taylor property does not have any pedestrian facilities and there is no vehicular access for the public to properties on the east side of Wadsworth in the project area. The City has been awarded a grant to fund construction of a shared-use path along the east side of Wadsworth in this area. The attached IGA is for that grant.

There is a well-worn social trail along the east side of Wadsworth showing it is used even without a paved path. Starting at Vassar, the dirt trail is flat but as it approaches Morrison it narrows and becomes tilted toward the motor vehicle lanes. Bicycle or wheelchair users attempting use of the steeper part of the trail have been seen going into the vehicular traffic lane due to the slope. The grant with City matching funds will provide a paved concrete path for multiple users.

More recently, in April 2021, the City was awarded a grant that will fund improvements to the motor vehicle facilities in the area. Generally, the improvements will include opening a motor vehicle access to properties on the east, including the City's park property, at the Morrison Road intersection location; building a new traffic signal at that location; adding a third northbound lane on Wadsworth that will connect to the third lane that exists across the Green Gables development; and making limited changes on the west side of Wadsworth.

An IGA amendment is being drafted by CDOT to incorporate the roadway improvements with the path project. The second grant can be amended into this IGA because most of the terms will not change. It will be necessary to change, via the amendment, the work scope and funding. Deferring this resolution until the IGA amendment is prepared was considered. However, earlier approval of the initial IGA and confirmation of City Council's support of the IGA amendment and its associated grant will allow final design of all planned improvements to proceed sooner.

The two grants are not fully sufficient to fund the work. The budget process last year approved adequate City funds to match the grants and provide the required additional City funds. Funding is planned to occur as follows:

	Grant Funds	City Matching Funds	Total Funds
Path Grant	\$2,003,962	\$500,990	\$2,504,952
Roadway Grant	\$2,991,000	\$748,000	\$3,739,000
Additional City Funds		\$800,000	\$800,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>\$4,994,962</b>	<b>\$2,048,990</b>	<b>\$7,043,952</b>

**BUDGETARY IMPACTS:** Adequate City's funds are included in the approved 2021 budget for this project.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Approval of the resolution.

**ALTERNATIVES:** City Council could choose to not approve the resolution resulting in the grants being declined, or City Council could remove from the resolution the authorization for the City Manager to sign the anticipated IGA amendment, delaying work on those improvements.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH:** The improvements described above were included in the budget adoption process last year and notice of this resolution has occurred through the normal City Council meeting notifications. Limited initial contacts have been made with some owners of property adjacent to the anticipated construction. Outreach to owners of all adjacent property will occur during the design and construction processes after City Council approval of the IGA and its amendment necessary to fund the work.

**NEXT STEPS:** The IGA will be executed, the IGA amendment will be prepared and executed, and final design and construction document preparation will proceed.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Resolution 2021-17  
Intergovernmental agreement with CDOT

**REVIEWED BY:** Kathleen E. Hodgson, City Manager  
Benjamin B. Goldstein, Deputy City Manager  
Alison McKenney Brown, City Attorney