



COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

CITY COUNCIL of SALT LAKE CITY
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TO: City Council Members

FROM: Sylvia Richards, Budget Analyst

DATE: March 22, 2022

**RE: PUBLIC HEARING FOR GRANT
APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Briefing: Not required.
Set Date: Not required.
Public Hearing: Mar. 22, 2022
Potential Action: TBD

ISSUE AT-A-GLANCE

The Administration has submitted six grant applications. In an effort to ensure that the City Council, Council staff and the public has adequate opportunity to see and comment on them, the grant application notifications will be included in the Council meeting agendas under Public Hearings. There won't be a set date since this is not a required hearing.

1. **Congestion Mitigation Air Quality 2023-28 East Downtown 200 South Mobility Hub Grant**

Purpose/Goal of the Grant: If awarded, the grant monies will be used to fund the design and construction of an East Downtown 200 South Mobility Hub for bus rapid transit and core routes serving Frontrunner, the Salt Lake Valley, and the University of Utah. The hub would provide operator/end of line facilities, electric bus charging and passenger amenities at a transfer point in the downtown area. Potential locations include 200 South right-of-way, and the city-owned Northwest Pipeline Building on 200 South and 300 East.

Grant Amount: \$3,994,375

Requested by: Department of Community & Neighborhoods – Transportation Division

Funding Agency: Wasatch Front Regional Council administering U.S. Department of Transportation funds.

Match Requirement: \$286,425 – Source: Future request to Fund Our Future Transit
If awarded, these funds should be available in in FY2028.



Questions from Council staff and responses from the Administration:

- a. If Funding Our Future Transit funds are not available in FY2028, is there another funding source available/identified for the match?
The Transportation Division could instead request General fund CIP dollars or Quarter Cent dollars.
- b. Would this grant funding plus the match requirement fully fund the project?
No. We are seeking funding from multiple sources and using a 'modular' approach to program transit hub elements. This request includes fund sufficient to remodel the ground floor (9,000 sq ft) of the Northwest Pipeline Building, including restrooms, bus operator rest facilities, and potential for restaurant or other retail presence. Additional funds will be required for exterior upgrades (e.g. windows, doors, and awnings).

This request also includes partial funding (approx. 50%) for electric bus charging infrastructure.
- c. If the funding is not awarded, then are related projects negatively impacted such as the 200 South frequent transit route, redevelopment of the Northwest Pipeline Building, reconstruction of 200 South, etc.?
The most critical project that would be affected is the 200 South transit corridor – which serves multiple frequent transit routes. The reconstruction of 200 South would not be affected. The redevelopment of the rest of the Northwest Pipeline Building is currently under discussion; the mobility hub would use only a small portion of the downstairs floor of this building. If the mobility hub does not use that space, it could be used for other retail.
- d. Could you please elaborate on how this project would benefit Frontrunner passengers since the nearest Frontrunner station is 10 blocks away?
Many people who ride Frontrunner transfer to local buses to reach their final destinations, or conversely take a local bus to the Frontrunner station. This is particularly true along 200 South, where multiple frequent transit routes provide faster service to parts of downtown than does TRAX. Sections of 200 South currently have 7 minute service, compared to TRAX's more circuitous 15 minute service.
- e. The City has submitted multiple CMAQ applications. Are these applications in competition with each other? To ask another way, could the City be awarded all of these CMAQ applications or would the City need to prioritize the applications?
The city could receive both CMAQ awards, however, it is likely that one or more would be partial awards. WFRC asks applicants to prioritize applications for all funding sources. This was #2 out of 4. The bikeshare CMAQ application was #4 of 4.

Staff Recommendation: Please refer to motion sheet.