

Item #16

**USDOT Neighborhood
Access and Equity (NAE)
Planning Grant**

City Council A Session

September 12, 2024

Erika Ragsdale, Redevelopment Officer



BACKGROUND

- In 2023, US Department of Transportation issued a notice of funding opportunity for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods program.
- Planning grants were made available to projects which aim to mitigate the impacts of freeways by improving connectivity, mobility, access, and economic development.
- In 2023, City applied for funds to develop conceptual design solutions to overcome the barrier created by Interstate 37.





AWARD

- In March 2024, the USDOT awarded \$3.3 billion in funding to over 130 planning and capital projects.
- The City was awarded a \$2.96M Planning grant:



- The grant will fund a **community-driven planning effort** to mitigate the impacts of I-37 and better connect downtown San Antonio and Hemisfair to historically underserved communities on the Eastside.

IMPLEMENTATION



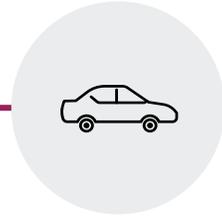
Solicitation + Selection

RFQ to be released
October 2024.



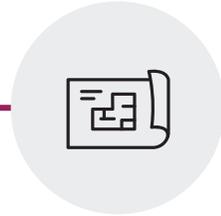
Community Engagement

Community Participation Plan;
Oversight committee;
Public workshops;
Stakeholder meetings;
Outreach events.



Existing Conditions

Assessment to understand how the current infrastructure supports people on foot, bike, or other methods outside of a car.



Alternative Concepts

At least two concepts are developed based on community vision and existing conditions.



Alternatives Analysis

Preliminary design, engineering, and cost estimation, leading to a preferred concept to advance into design and construction.

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Summer 2025

Fall 2025

RECOMMENDATION

- Staff recommends authorizing the approval and acceptance of the USDOT Neighborhood Access and Equity (NAE) Planning Grant funds in the amount of \$2,960,000, and authorizing matching funds in the amount of \$740,000.



THANK YOU!

Erika Ragsdale

