



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
**{{item.tracking\_number}}**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 2

**Agenda Date:** June 20, 2023

**In Control:** Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting

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**DEPARTMENT:** Transportation Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Catherine Hernandez

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Briefing on the two Interlocal Agreements between the City of San Antonio and VIA Metropolitan Transit. The ART ILA establishes a cooperative partnership to deliver the Advanced Rapid Transit (ART) North/South (N/S) Corridor Project; and the ATD ILA transfers a portion of Advanced Transportation District (ATD) funds from the City to VIA for advanced transportation and enhanced mobility purposes.

**SUMMARY:**

Briefing and possible action on two Interlocal Agreements (ILAs) between the City of San Antonio and VIA Metropolitan Transit establishing a cooperative partnership to deliver the VIA North/South Advanced Rapid Transit (ART) Corridor Project; and transferring a portion of ATD funds from the City to VIA for advanced transportation and enhanced mobility purposes.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The ART ILA establishes a cooperative partnership between the City and VIA to deliver the North/South ART Corridor Project which connects the San Antonio International Airport area, along San Pedro Avenue, through Downtown, and south to the Missions area. ART vehicles run in dedicated and mixed-use lanes. The Project is in the second year of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program. As part of the CIG Program, VIA is expected to execute cooperative agreements with key stakeholders. The ART ILA establishes the processes and roles and responsibilities that will ensure the Project is completed within the anticipated schedule and budget. Through the ART ILA, the City and VIA agree to coordinate their actions in good faith and in the best interests of the Project. The ART ILA also defines the scope as well as a process by which the City can request "betterments," or elements integrated within the Project but not necessary for the Project purpose and funded outside of the federal funds.

The City Council Transportation and Mobility Committee was updated on the ART ILA on November 29, 2022, January 17, 2023, February 21, 2023 and March 21, 2023. June 20, 2023 will be another briefing to provide an update before City Council consideration on June 22, 2023.

The ATD ILA establishes a mechanism by which the City can transfer a portion of its ATD funding to VIA to use on advanced transportation and enhanced mobility projects such as the ART Project. In 2020, VIA, the governing body of the Advanced Transportation District (ATD), called an election to increase the current  $\frac{1}{4}$  portion of the sales and use tax collected for the ATD by  $\frac{1}{8}$  for a cumulative amount of  $\frac{3}{8}$  of one percent. Voters approved such an increase on November 3, 2020, to commence on January 1, 2026.

The purpose of the ATD ILA is to establish the terms and conditions under which the City will contribute its statutory share of the  $\frac{1}{8}$  increase approved by the voters in 2020 to VIA commencing in 2026 to be used for advanced transportation or enhanced mobility purposes, consistent with and as defined in Section 451.701 and Section 451.702 of the Texas Transportation Code. The City will retain its  $\frac{1}{4}$  portion of the initial  $\frac{1}{4}$  of one percent that was approved by voters in 2004.

## **ISSUE:**

This briefing serves as staff's update to the City Council Transportation and Mobility Committee on the draft ILA agreements inclusive of key highlights such as agreed upon roles and responsibilities, corrective action processes, and other agreed upon provisions to demonstrate to FTA that partnership framework exists to manage risk on the project.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

**This item is for briefing purposes only.**

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for briefing purposes only.