



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: January 17, 2023

In Control: Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Transportation Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Tomika Monterville

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A briefing on the VIA Advanced Rapid Transit (ART) North/South (N/S) Project Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the City of San Antonio.

SUMMARY:

A briefing on the VIA ART N/S Project ILA with the City of San Antonio.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The ART N/S Corridor 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. Recognizing the ART N/S Corridor Project is part of the voter approved Keep San Antonio Moving Plan (KSAM), within the jurisdiction of the City (and largely within the public right of way) and for the benefit of the City, communities, and residents, further demonstrates the cooperation and partnership of COSA as integral to the Project's success. This ILA is a critical steppingstone for VIA not only as part of its

efforts to secure FTA funding but also to establish a framework for partnership throughout the Project.

Function of the ILA

The ILA will establish the processes and mutually beneficial roles and responsibilities that will ensure the Project is completed within the anticipated schedule and budget. The City and VIA agree to coordinate their actions in good faith and in the best interests of the Project. The ILA defines the scope of the Project as well as a process by which the City can request “betterments”, or elements integrated with the Project but not necessary for the Project purpose and funded outside of the Federal funds.

The ILA focuses on VIA and COSA roles and responsibilities for the capital portion of the Project. VIA is the Project sponsor and recipient of federal funding responsible for delivering the Project according to federal requirements; in that role, VIA will lead the Project for purposes of federal environmental approvals, grants, and funding. VIA will lead the design and construction of the Project, to the applicable local standards, inclusive of the letting of applicable contracts, method of delivery determination, and start-up and commissioning activities. VIA will procure the transit vehicles and set the transit service schedule. The City will serve as a collaborator with VIA in support of VIA’s efforts to complete the Project, as well as to assist VIA with stakeholder and public communication and assistance in obtaining permits.

The ILA also sets out the processes by which City staff will review and comment on the Project design plans, issue applicable permits, and conduct inspections. The ILA also identifies the process for coordination concerning utilities, property acquisition, and transit signal priority. The ILA identifies individuals who will serve as the primary points of contact between the City and VIA for purposes of resolving issues at the lowest level, as well as a dispute escalation ladder to quickly and decisively resolve issues that require escalation.

The ILA is a precursor for a future agreement that outlines details of operations and maintenance once the Project design is completed. In general, VIA will be responsible for operating and maintaining all transit elements of the Project, such as all improvements within the station areas, and the City will continue to operate and maintain the public right of way as it does today.

ISSUE:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

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RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.