



City Council Report

Date: August 25, 2014
To: City Council
Through: Kari Kent, Deputy City Manager
From: Lenny Hulme, Transportation Director
Maria Angelica Deeb, Transportation Project Coordinator
Subject: Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation for Ownership and Maintenance of Solar Lighting for the Rio Salado Multiuse Path District 1

Strategic Initiatives



Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to request Council approve the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the City of Mesa which identifies the responsibilities of ADOT and the City concerning the construction, subsequent ownership and maintenance of solar lighting and associated equipment for the Rio Salado Multiuse Path at the L202 Red Mountain Freeway and L101 Price Freeway traffic interchange. The specific location of the Rio Salado Multiuse Path is depicted on Exhibit A.

Staff recommends the City Council authorize this IGA.

Background and Discussion

The Rio Salado pathway is a regional path that links Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, and Mesa. ADOT has partnered with the City of Tempe and Mesa to design the Rio Salado Multiuse Path through the L202 Red Mountain Freeway and L101 Price Freeway traffic interchange.

ADOT shall be the lead agency who advertises for bid, awards the project and administers the construction of this Rio Salado Multiuse Path segment. ADOT does not have agency capacity to maintain a multi-modal pathway. Therefore, Tempe has agreed to maintain the pathway, and Mesa has agreed to own and maintain the solar lighting and associated equipment once the project's construction is completed and

approved by ADOT. In other words, although this is in ADOT right-of-way, they cannot maintain a shared-use path facility. So, ADOT secured the funds for construction, and is managing the project, while Tempe and Mesa agreed to provide future maintenance.

To the east of this segment, Mesa will construct two Rio Salado Multiuse Path segments that will connect Mesa to the multi-use pathways and destinations in Phoenix, Tempe, and Scottsdale. These Mesa projects will eventually join the West Mesa Connector at Dobson Road.

The IGA will allow the City to accept ownership and maintenance responsibilities for the solar lighting and associated equipment. Maintenance includes keep the solar panels clean and in good working condition, and replacing batteries as needed at the City's sole expense. All maintenance responsibilities of the pathway shall be the responsibility of the City of Tempe under an IGA between Tempe and ADOT.

The IGA states (Section III, 13) that the approval to form of the ADOT attorney is an executed attachment. The City does not have this form at this time, but in its stead, a memo from ADOT's attorney is attached, indicating that the IGA is in proper form and ready to be circulated for signatures.

Alternatives

The City Council could choose not to approve this IGA. The City's Transportation Department would not be able to guarantee that lighting will be adequately provided or maintained for the Rio Salado Pathway within the ADOT right-of-way, which is the west entry to the City.

Fiscal Impact

The City Transportation's Operation and Maintenance budget will be minimally impacted by the execution of this IGA as Transportation is going to maintain the Rio Salado Pathway from the west city limits to Dobson Road, and this will be a continuation of that maintenance.