

# Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Bill Agan and members of the Richland Hills City Council  
From: Jason Moore, Assistant City Manager  
Date: May 16, 2017  
Subject: Hike & Bike Trail in Richland Hills

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**Council Action:** N/A

**Background Information:** As you will recall in February, Council passed a resolution to apply for funding regarding a hike and bike trail connection along the Oncor Electric easement from Glenview Drive, south to the TRE Trail Station.

Last week, staff received an email from the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) that our 2017 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Call for Projects was being recommended for approval to the Surface Technical Transportation Committee and then the Regional Transportation Council in June.

While not official until the Texas Department of Transportation executes an Advanced Funding Agreement with the City by late summer, we are recommended to receive \$1,677,121 of Federal Funding for our project.

The City's match will be \$419,280. Staff will work with the County and other sources to request additional funding assistance for the local match.

As a refresher, a description of the project itself is below:

The proposed project is to create a seamless north-south active transportation connection from the northern border of Richland Hills to the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) Richland Hills station. This connection will include a shared-use path within a utility easement, on-street bikeway infrastructure, enhanced intersection crossings, and widened sidewalks. If the project is constructed, the rail station would be accessible by cyclists and pedestrians, providing residents of Richland Hills with additional transportation choices for their daily commutes.

The proposed route is approximately 2 miles contained entirely in the City of Richland Hills. The majority of the route will be a 12' shared-use path located in the 70' wide Oncor utility easement that runs north/south through the city parallel to London Lane. In order to avoid multiple commercial driveways, the route shifts to an on-street bikeway at Bridges Avenue before returning to a shared-use path on the north side of Baker

Boulevard. The route then crosses Baker Boulevard at Handley Ederville Road and continues in the utility easement until the Airport Freeway (SH 121) frontage road. The route then connects to existing sidewalks under Airport Freeway and ends at the TRE Richland Hills station. Since the entire route will be at-grade, pedestrian crossing treatments will be added to 1 intersection along the route at Airport Freeway. Intersection striping improvements at Baker Boulevard will be implemented as part of a separate roadway enhancement project currently under design. Signs will also be added along the route to designate the on-street portion of the route and signify entrances to the trail.

This proposed route is a critical link in Richland Hills' bicycle/pedestrian network since it connects to already funded on-street routes planned for Handley Ederville Road south of Airport Freeway. It is also just 0.3 miles away from the existing JoAnn Johnson shared-use path in North Richland Hills.

**Board/Citizen Input:** N/A

**Financial Impact:** \$419,280

**Staff Contacts:** Jason Moore, Assistant City Manager, [jmoore@richlandhills.com](mailto:jmoore@richlandhills.com)

**Attachments:** Draft Recommendation from NCTCOG

# DRAFT

## Fort Worth TxDOT District: 2017 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Active Transportation Projects

#	Nominating Entity	Project Name	1. Regional Network Connectivity (25 Points)		2. Mobility (20 Points)		3. Safety (15 Points)		4. Reducing Barriers (10 Points)		5. Congestion Reduction (10 Points)		6. Destination Density (5 Points)		7. Air Quality Benefit (5 Points)		8. Equity (5 Points)		9. Local Network Connectivity (5 Points)		Subtotal	10. Project Readiness and Other Factors (20 Points)			Project Score	Requested Funding			Recommended Funding									
			Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality		Total	Quality	Total		Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality	Total	Quality				
1	City of Grapevine	Dallas Road TOD Corridor / Cotton Belt Trail Extension	25	High	20	High	10	Medium	10	High	5	Medium	5	High	4	High	2	Medium	5	High	86	20	High	5	High	111	\$	7,246,135	\$	5,000,000	\$	2,246,135	\$	7,246,135	\$	5,000,000	\$	2,246,135
2	City of North Richland Hills	NRH Active Transportation Project for Trail / On-Road	19	Medium	10	Low	10	Medium	10	High	3	Medium	3	Medium	2	Medium	2	Medium	3	Medium	62	15	High	5	High	82	\$	771,618	\$	617,294	\$	154,324	\$	771,618	\$	617,294	\$	154,324
3	City of Richland Hills	Richland Hills TRE Connection	16	Medium	20	High	8	Medium	3	Low	5	Medium	5	High	3	Medium	2	Medium	4	High	66	10	Medium	1	Medium	77	\$	2,096,401	\$	1,677,121	\$	419,280	\$	2,096,401	\$	1,677,121	\$	419,280
4	City of Arlington	Julia Burgen Linear Park Trail System	19	Medium	5	Low	12	High	7	Medium	5	Medium	3	Medium	4	High	3	Medium	4	High	62	9	Medium	1	Medium	72	\$	1,295,036	\$	647,518	\$	647,518	\$	1,085,136	\$	542,568	\$	542,568
<b>TOTAL RECOMMENDED</b>																								\$	11,409,190	\$	7,941,933	\$	3,467,257	\$	11,199,290	\$	7,836,983	\$	3,362,307			
<b>Projects Not Recommended for Funding</b>																																						
5	City of Benbrook	Clear Fork Bridge	16	Medium	0	Low	8	Medium	10	High	2	Low	1	Low	2	Medium	0	Low	3	Medium	42	10	Medium	0	Low	52	\$	561,950	\$	449,560	\$	112,390						
6	City of Arlington	Citywide Pedestrian Safety Improvements	12	Low	0	Low	8	Medium	3	Low	1	Low	0	Low	0	Low	3	Medium	0	Low	27	12	Medium	5	High	44	\$	699,241	\$	559,393	\$	139,848						
7	City of Benbrook	Dutch Branch Park Pedestrian / Bicycle Access Project	6	Low	0	Low	5	Low	8	High	1	Low	1	Low	1	Low	0	Low	0	Low	22	5	Low	0	Low	27	\$	2,507,129	\$	2,005,703	\$	501,426						
<b>TOTAL REQUESTS RECEIVED</b>																								\$	15,177,510	\$	10,956,589	\$	4,220,921									

Highlighted projects indicate reduced funding based on reductions in project scope, design costs, or other project elements.