

FISCAL YEAR 2009 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE -- REP. Michael Burgess (TX-26)

Must be completed and submitted NO LATER than COB March 7, 2008

Please submit completed questionnaire to josh.martin@mail.house.gov

PLEASE NOTE: ALL REQUESTS MUST INCLUDE A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST ON OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD EXPLAINING THE PROJECT. THIS QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD ACCOMPANY, NOT REPLACE, A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST AND ANY OTHER QUESTIONNAIRE

I. PROJECT BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

1. Please provide a formal name for this project:

I-35W Improvement Project

2. Please describe the project and its purpose:

The requested \$5,000,000 will provide funding for the design and environmental work, the initial phase of the improvement of this section of I-35W to provide congestion and air quality relief. I-35 impacts the transportation needs, both personal and commercial, of the entire central United States. It is for this reason that this project deserves the requested amount of federal funding in addition to other sources. The improvement and expansion of I-35W from downtown Fort Worth to its intersection with I-35E in Denton will serve to significantly enhance private and commercial access to the important central city renewal work of the Trinity River Vision project.

3. Please outline the project plan, including the finance plan:

The requested \$5,000,000 will provide funding for the design and environmental work, the initial phase of the improvement of this section of I-35W. This being the initial phase of this project, the funding can be applied to the specified purposes immediately upon receipt with the planning and environmental work being complete within one to two years.

II. BENEFIT TO THE 26th DISTRICT AND/OR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Please explain how this project will improve life, the economy or the general welfare of the 26th District and/or the country at-large. Please be specific (i.e. outline number of jobs created, savings to economy or taxpayers, improve national security):

This being the initial phase of this project, the funding can be applied to the specified purposes immediately upon receipt with the planning and environmental work being complete within one to two years. This project, which will provide much needed congestion and air quality relief for this section of I-35W, will directly impact the traveling public from residents of the area to those traveling through the area – passenger vehicles and trucks transporting goods not only to the area but across the nation and Canada and Mexico. Equally important in Fort Worth, I-35W intersects three additional east-west interstate highways, I-30, I-20, and I-820, which provide significant surface transportation linkage for the entire

Dallas-Arlington-Fort Worth area and the nation. This project is a vital step in the process of expansion and improvement of I-35W which, in conjunction with I-30, I-20 and I-820, is a vital and necessary local, national and international transportation link.

2. Please explain why this project should be considered a priority:

The requested federal funding will provide for the increase of commerce, improve the quality of life, and reduce pollution for the North Texas community, our commercial partners, and the country.

III. REQUEST

1. Amount of money you are requesting:

\$5,000,000

2. Agency from which you are requesting funds:

Transportation - Federal Highway Administration

3. Account from which you are requesting funds:

Interstate Maintenance Discretionary account

IV. FUNDING HISTORY

1. What is the total project cost and can you provide a federal-state/local-other funding breakdown?

\$5,000,000 is the federal request for this component of the overall goal to provide congestion relief and environmental improvements along I-35W. The non-federal share this request is in the form of local matching funds which are contingent upon the federal appropriation.

2. Has the project ever received federal funds before? If so, please elaborate.

Yes. FY08: \$350,000

3. Has the project received state, local or private funds before? If so, please elaborate.

The City of Fort Worth is working with other municipalities, the private sector in the region and the State to complete this project including exploring additional funding opportunities.

4. Can you demonstrate a commitment for future funds from state, local, or private sectors? If so, please elaborate to the extent possible.

All cities in the I-35W corridor and Denton County will be contributing. The amount to be received from these sources will be equivalent to the matching requirement for the funds sought.

5. How do you intend to spend federal funds for this project (operating, construction, studies, equipment purchase, salaries, other)?

The requested \$5,000,000 will provide funding for design and environmental work.

6. Does the project request stem from a currently-funded federal program (i.e., an already existing congressional authorization)? If so, please explain and be as specific as possible.

No.

V. PROJECT HISTORY

1. Please briefly explain the level of support for the project in the local and any other community (if letters of support exist, please attach to this form).

The City is in discussions with local and state transportation officials regarding this project and fulfilling the State's goals in the transportation plan, "Keep Texas Moving." A letter of support is pending. This project is consistent with the area's officially adopted and sanctioned long-range plan, Mobility 2030. It is approved locally, but also by the State of Texas and federal agencies. A copy of the plan's recommendations is shown below, and is also available on page 7 of the report, available online at:
<http://www.nctcog.org/trans/mtp/2030/finrec.pdf>

2. Has the project encountered any objections within the local or other interested communities? If so, please describe (if letters or official records exist noting objections to the project, please attach to this form).

No.

3. Please briefly explain the current stage and expected timeline of the project in as great a detail as possible.

This being the initial phase of this project, the funding can be applied to the specified purposes immediately upon receipt with the planning and environmental work being complete within one to two years.

VI. CONTACTS

1. Who is the primary point of contact for the request?

Reid Rector

2. Contact information (telephone and e-mail):

3. Mailing address of entity that would receive the funding?
1000 Throckmorton Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
-

VII. TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

1. How much of this request can be spent in fiscal year 2009?

50%

2. If this is a highway, transit, rail, or aviation request, did you check eligibility with the state DOT, FTA, FRA, or FAA?

I-35 is a key component to TxDOT's "Keep Texas Moving" plan.

- 2a. If yes, did the agency indicate the project is eligible under the account requested?

N/A

3. If this is an FHWA request, is the project considered by the state and/or regional transportation officials as critical to their needs?

YES

4. If a highway request, is the project on the state's transportation improvement plan?

YES. I-35 is a key component to TxDOT's "Keep Texas Moving" plan.

PRIORITY PROJECT REQUEST CRITERIA

CERTIFICATION:

Reid Rector, ATTEST THAT THIS PROJECT REQUEST MADE ON BEHALF OF

The City of Fort Worth, TX MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. All appropriations requests must be a priority for the 26th District and/or the country-at large as defined as enhancing life, liberty, or the general welfare.
2. All requests must be a proper and wise use of federal taxpayer dollars and must be justified as such. Projects that include a commitment to match federal funds will receive priority consideration.
3. All requests will be immediately posted on the website and supporting documentation made available to press outlets and interested individuals.
4. None of the funding requested will be used for a building, program, or project that has been named for Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D. No request will be made that Congressman Burgess or his spouse has any financial interest.
5. All requests shall be made in accordance with House of Representatives rules, and within Appropriations Committee deadlines. No funding request will be submitted after the deadline established by the Committee

Name of person certifying Reid Rector

Title of person certifying Director, Government Relations

Project name as it will appear in the bill I-35W Improvement Project, Fort Worth, Texas

Legal name of entity making request City of Fort Worth, Texas

Address 1000 Throckmorton St.
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Reid Rector 03-04-08
Signature Date