

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

DEPARTMENT: El Paso Department of Transportation

AGENDA DATE: March 1, 2011

CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Terry Quezada, Deputy Director, El Paso Department of Transportation
(621-6750)

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: City-wide

SUBJECT:

Discussion and action to approve transportation priority projects for:

1. Submittal to MPO in response to call for projects from Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds,
2. Submittal to MPO in response to call for projects for State funding that may become available,
3. Submittal to federal or state funding agencies in response to calls for projects.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

The El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has issued a call for projects to be funded with CMAQ funds, a federal funding category for projects where the sponsoring entity can demonstrate emissions are reduced and air quality is improved. Additionally, the Texas Department of Transportation has also indicated there may be funds available statewide for distribution. This allocation is resulting from cost under-runs statewide. To prepare for these project calls, City staff has prepared the attached proposed projects that meet Council's strategic transportation goals to enhance BRT corridors and provide greater access to transit options. The project listings also consider project eligibility for CMAQ and statewide funding categories. At this point, there are no other specific funding sources. However, staff is seeking Council's sanction for the transportation priorities so that, should funding become available, the project priorities have been established and funding applications can be submitted to the appropriate agency.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

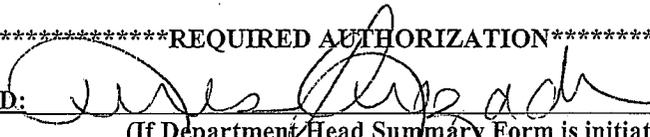
Council has approved the mass transit funding plans which identified the BRT corridors as transportation priorities and has discussed transportation funding at its January 27th Strategic Planning Session.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

No funding is required for this action. Council approval will allow staff to pursue funding opportunities.

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD: 

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager