



Agenda Item Report

Legislative Board: City Council
Date: June 16, 2026
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ITEM TITLE: Deliberation and possible direction for implementing and constructing 2021 Bond Projects Old Black Colony Rd, W Goforth Road, and Austin Street due to cost estimates and available funding (Capital Improvements Program Manager Austin Messerli, P.E. and Angellia Points, WSB Engineering) [PUBLIC TESTIMONY]

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November 2021, voters approved a \$89.66 million general obligation bond package with \$73.66 million for transportation improvements with specific projects identified. There are three large transportation projects within Proposition A: Old Black Colony, W Goforth Road, and Austin Street. Given the projections and current cost estimates for all design, utility relocation, land acquisition, and construction costs, there are not enough funds across the bond program to construct all of the three large projects as scoped.

Staff recommends full design and construction of Old Black Colony Road and Austin Street but only a portion of W Goforth Road. Council direction is requested in order for the bond team to adjust in a timely manner and continue momentum on projects without further delays or expenditures.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

In November 2021, voters approved an \$89.66 million general obligation bond package. The funds were divided into two propositions, including \$73.66 million for transportation projects. The following is the funding statuses (available funds vs. projected costs) of all of the Proposition A projects. Negative numbers in the Differences column indicate a project shortfall.

See TABLE 1 - In Attachments

There are two Proposition A projects not listed above. The following are the unallocated amounts for each.

- \$2,782,238 Future Small Mobility improvements
- \$1,118,230 Ped & Bike Improvements

There are three large transportation projects within Proposition A: Old Black Colony, W Goforth Road, and Austin Street. Given the projections and current cost estimates for all design, utility relocation, land acquisition, and construction costs, there is not enough funds across the program to construct all of the three large projects as scoped. All three projects have a completed schematic, 30% design, and 60% design with associated public engagements and property owner meetings. This funding shortfall was previously reported to City Council with acknowledgement that City

Council would be approached for direction once all three projects had reached 60% design.

Old Black Colony Road is nearing 90% design with surveyors on site to gather metes and bounds for land acquisition. There are also improvements made by The Colony east of this project as well as the new signal at 1626 and Old Black Colony to connect this project. This project is further along than the other two large projects. Staff is actively working with the proposed Connection Church development for a drainage easement to place a detention pond and utilize for stormwater treatment, directly benefiting the project. Conversations have been positive and successful thus far.

Austin Street Reconstruction is at 60% design with a public engagement period recently completed. This project seems to have public support and is proposed within existing right-of-way. Only temporary construction easements will be required to construct this project. Progress is being made regarding commercial dumpsters, driveways, and TxDOT coordination. There is a great opportunity to make progress in the downtown drainage master plan with this City-led project. Drainage along Austin Street will be placed underground and be treated.

W Goforth Road is at the 60% design with a public engagement period recently completed. This project has lesser public support with the amount of land acquisition needed. The project is adjacent to and would connect to Project Area 1B which improves the drainage behind the homes on the east side of the project near S Loop 4. The projected costs are well above the available funds. This is due to the high construction costs and land acquisition. From a design and constructability standpoint, there is a clear, logical point to phase this project. There is a high point, vertically, between Sequoia and Bonita Vista/Arikara along Old Black Colony. This is a point where the drainage system drains to either the west or east. The proposed design at this high point matches up closely with the existing roadway, horizontally and vertically. In other words, the proposed design and existing roadway overlap best in this location. With the top of the drainage design and overlapping the existing roadway location, this is a clear point to phase the project. This western portion of the project also aligns with Project Area 1B and would address drainage in front of the homes along the road. Properties along W Goforth Road west of Bonita Vista are generally all developed. However, there are larger parcels east of Bonita Vista that are vacant and are more primed for redevelopment and platting. In order to make progress on W Goforth Road and fulfill the intent of the 2021 Buda Bond Project, Staff recommends reconstructing the western part of W Goforth Road between S Loop 4 and just west of Bonita Vista/Arikara. Of the 6,070 linear feet of W Goforth Road reconstruction, the portion between S Loop 4 and just west of Bonita Vista/Arikara is 2,675 linear feet or 44% of the entire roadway. If only this portion of the roadway is designed and constructed, Staff believes the projected costs of W Goforth Road will be less than the available funds. Any unused funds would be reallocated to Old Black Colony and Austin Street to fully fund projects based on current projected costs.

The IH35 to Old San Antonio Road Connector project is a noteworthy project within Proposition A. This project is likely not to come to fruition. The proposed roadway connecting Old San Antonio Road to the IH-35 frontage lane requires an easement agreement with HEB. HEB has considered alternatives to their property and recently decided to relocate northwest of Main Street and Old San Antonio Road. It is unlikely an easement from the current HEB property will be obtained in the near future. It is Staff's and WSB's recommendation to not pursue this acquisition nor design this road connection. Instead, replating and redevelopment of the HEB site may be the best initiator of this new connector roadway. Staff is recommending removing the project funding from the IH35 to Old San Antonio Road Connector project and reallocating to other Proposition A projects.

3. ANALYSIS

There is not enough 2021 Buda Bond funding to complete all projects as they are currently scoped. Proposition A funds can be reallocated within the proposition with Council approval. Assuming Council is supportive of completing all of Austin Street and Old Black Colony Road and a portion of

W Goforth Road, the following financial outcome is expected.

See TABLE 2 - In Attachments

There are two Proposition A projects not listed above. Council will also consider allocating of a portion of these funds to specific elements in Garison Park. Those allocations are described in the Garison Park agenda report.

- \$2,782,238 Future Small Mobility improvements
- \$1,118,230 Ped & Bike Improvements

If Council approves this recommendation, all 2021 Buda Bond projects will be funded and be able to be constructed except for a portion of W Goforth Road and the IH35 to Old San Antonio Road Connector.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommendation is to make the decision to only complete a portion of W Goforth Road, which has a financial impact to the overall program when dollars are actually approved to be spent.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS
IMPROVED MOBILITY

6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic flow

7. PROS AND CONS

Pros: Fulfillment of the 2021 Buda Bond commitment for all three projects without seeking funds from general fund, CIP funds, etc.

Cons: No decision or direction on designing and constructing all three of the projects as scoped risks one or more bond projects not able to be constructed in its entirety.

8. ALTERNATIVES

If direction is not given or if direction is to construct all of W Goforth Road, the City would investigate how to reduce the design and value engineer other bond projects, which would lead to delays and unknown cost impacts to the bond projects. This discussion would need to be held again.

9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks Council's directive to design and construct Austin Street and Old Black Colony Road as scoped and approved while only designing and constructing a portion of W Goforth Road, west of Bonita Vista.

Attachments:

[Presentation - 2021 Bond Transportation.pdf](#)

Background Table 1 - 20260616.pdf

Background Table 2 - 20260616.pdf