



Agenda Item Report

Legislative Board: City Council
Date: March 3, 2026
Contact: Wendy Smith
Agenda Item ID / Number: 2026-244- / J.7

ITEM TITLE: Deliberation and possible action to authorize the City Manager or his designee to submit an application for FY 2027 Community Project Funding (CPF) through the 35th Congressional District represented by Rep. Greg Casar (Assistant City Manager Wendy L. Smith) [PUBLIC TESTIMONY]

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Congressman Greg Casar's office recently notified staff of the possibility that the House Appropriations Committee will open applications for FY2027 CPFs. Examples of what the Congressman's office looks for in a project are as follows:

- Community need: Projects that benefit low resourced community/areas without existing wealth or historic government investment
- Community impact projects: Parks, community centers, affordable housing, food banks, childcare centers, etc.
- Gap funding: Projects that are well-vetted and are already mostly funded where a CPF could complete the funding or where there is already money to start the projects while CPFs inevitably take a while for funding to come through.
- Projects that the community would want to celebrate: Are there projects that would make for a good "big check" event, groundbreaking, or community celebration?
- Organizational capacity: The requirements and timeline may be burdensome for certain entities or projects. As we've learned with the unpredictable nature of government funding, it may take over a year for the funding to be approved, and even longer to receive the funds.

Taking into account the criteria above, staff recommends that an application be submitted for Eastside Park and/or the East Main Street project. Both have conceptual or final plans, associated cost estimates, are partially funded, and have regional significance.

Previously funded projects can be viewed at [Community Project Funding | Representative Casar](https://casar.house.gov/services/community-project-funding)
<https://casar.house.gov/services/community-project-funding>.

Please note that Buda is also split with District 21. Congressman Chip Roy's office was previously contacted and reported that they do not participate in this program.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

Typically, the House Appropriations Committee authorizes an annual process by which Community Funding Projects are considered and funded for each Congressional District. For the last two cycles, the City of Buda submitted applications to Rep. Greg Casar's office, but the projects were not selected for funding. The City of Buda previously received Community Funding in the amount of \$1.6 million for the South Loop 4 Wastewater Line project when Buda was represented by Congressman Doggett.

3. ANALYSIS

N/A

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

An awarded application would provide partial funding for either project. East Main Street was submitted in the CAMPO Call for Projects (not yet awarded) and is partially funded in an agreement with Sunfield MUD. For Eastside Park, certain elements from the concept plan would be included as a first phase.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS

EXCEPTIONAL CITY SERVICES

6. STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Leverage City resources through partnerships, grants and other outside funding sources.

7. PROS AND CONS

Pro: Grant funding would offset a portion of the project costs.

Con: Post-award agency applications and compliance can be laborious and time-consuming. Additionally, match funds may require prioritization of one of these projects over others.

8. ALTERNATIVES

Seek alternate funding sources.

9. REQUESTED ACTION / SUGGESTED MOTION / RECOMMENDATION

Select a project and authorize the City Manager or his designee to submit an application for FY 2027 Community Project Funding (CPF) through the 35th Congressional District represented by Rep. Greg Casar.

Attachments:

[j7 Community Project Funding Presentation.pdf](#)