

III.B.



DATE: February 13, 2013

TO: Michael G. Herring, ICMA-CM
City Administrator

FROM: James A. Eckrich, P.E.
Public Works Director / City Engineer

RE: South Outer I-64 TIP Application

As you are aware, Mercy Health Systems is in the process of acquiring approval to develop the site located at the southeast corner of I-64 and Clarkson/Olive. This has brought to the forefront a plan, initiated by the City of Chesterfield and supported by MODOT and St. Louis County, to construct an eastbound outer roadway connecting Clarkson/Olive to Chesterfield Parkway East. This plan was conceptual for some time, but was formalized in a report completed by George Butler and Associates on October 6, 2009, and incorporated into East West Gateway's Regional Transportation Plan 2040. City Staff believes that there is an opportunity to tie the Mercy development, and the improvements Mercy would otherwise be required to make, into a larger project which would complete this entire section of roadway and the Chesterfield Parkway East Pedestrian Bridge.

City Staff believes that this entire project could be partially funded through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) administered by East West Gateway. As stated in the Schoettler Road Bridge memorandum, the TIP funds up to eighty percent of construction, right of way, and design costs associated with infrastructure improvements to eligible roads and bridges. Staff believes this project is an excellent candidate as it will improve regional traffic flow and add pedestrian access to a growing area. Accordingly, Staff is in the process of working with a consultant to draft a TIP application to East West Gateway, under the Surface Transportation Program – Suballocated (STP-S), to fund the section of South Outer I-64 from Clarkson/Olive to Chesterfield Parkway East and the pedestrian bridge over I-64 adjacent to Chesterfield Parkway East. The estimate for this entire project is not yet complete, but is believed to be in vicinity of \$5,000,000. In this case, in order to maximize the chance of obtaining the grant, Staff would propose a City match of thirty percent, resulting in a breakdown of \$3,500,000 in federal (grant) costs and \$1,500,000 in City costs.

While the costs outlined above are certainly substantive, in reality the total cost to the City of Chesterfield is expected to be much lower, and potentially zero. The City has secured a cash escrow from Mercy Health Systems in an amount anticipated to cover the section of South Outer I-64 which would be required as part of the Mercy project. It is likely that the City's responsibility as part of the grant application could be entirely funded through Mercy's escrow. These details would need to be finalized in further discussions with Mercy, and the options are probably best left unwritten until further negotiations are held with Mercy.

Similar to the Schoettler Road Bridge grant, [this TIP application requires an application fee of 0.5% of the federal (grant) portion of the project. We believe the fee will be around \$17,500.] If the grant is not approved, the entire application fee will be refunded to the City. There is some question as to whether a project of this scope will be funded through the TIP. However, Staff is working to optimize our chances and has requested letters of support from MODOT, St. Louis County, and Mercy Health Systems.

Please be advised that the scope of the project and estimate are not yet finalized. We will have this completed by the City Council Meeting on March 4, 2013, at which time the actual cost of the grant application will be provided.

Action Recommended

This matter should be forwarded to the Planning and Public Works Committee for its consideration of approval of the submittal of a grant application for the construction of South Outer I-64 from Clarkson/Olive to Chesterfield Parkway East, including the pedestrian bridge over I-64. The associated application fee is estimated to be \$17,500. Funding for the grant application would be provided from the Capital Projects Fund.

Jgm
2/13/13

STUDY REPORT

**City of Chesterfield
Department of Planning
Chesterfield, MO**

**Travel Demand Model Review of Major
Roadway and Highway Improvements**

**Proposed by:
Sachs Properties**

GBA Project No. 11432

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South Outer I-64

Chestersfield Parkway East
Pedestrian
Bridge

MERCY