



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Brittany Navas, Grants Analyst
DATE: March 18, 2025
SUBJECT: Proposed Projects for Congressional Appropriations Funding 2025

Description This report presents proposed projects for federal appropriations funding and seeks Council approval for submission.

Background and Analysis:

The City of Beaumont has an opportunity to pursue federal appropriations funding to support projects that address critical community needs, enhance infrastructure, and improve the overall quality of life for residents. Typical appropriations requests range between \$1-5 million, although larger requests can be made. The most competitive applications are for projects that are already substantially funded and require additional resources to close a funding gap, ensuring that the funds will be used effectively and that the project is positioned for timely completion.

In January of this year, federal grant funding was temporarily frozen, creating some uncertainty regarding appropriations and funding availability. However, this freeze has since been lifted, and based on discussions with our legislative consultants, we have every reason to believe that federal appropriations and funding opportunities will continue. While federal priorities and selection criteria may shift under the new administration, opportunities for infrastructure and community investment remain a key focus.

Staff worked closely with our lobbyist, Jamie Jones, to refine and define the proposed projects to improve their alignment with federal priorities and enhance their competitiveness. Efforts were made to strategically diversify the funding requests across multiple accounts to maximize the City's chances of securing appropriations funding. While there are no guarantees, our consultant indicated that these projects are well-positioned based on their alignment with federal funding categories and the thoughtful approach taken to strengthen each request.

Federal appropriations are divided into 12 categories, each targeting specific priorities such as infrastructure, public safety, sustainability, and economic development. Within

these categories, there are multiple accounts that further refine project eligibility, allowing for strategic diversification of funding requests to maximize success. Because these projects align with different funding sources, they will not compete against one another.

Given this strategic approach and the guidance received from our lobbyist, staff believes these projects represent strong opportunities for federal appropriations funding.

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated cost to prepare this report is \$212.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends that City Council approve the proposed project list as presented and authorize staff to submit the identified projects for federal appropriations funding requests.

Attachments:

- A. Detailed Project Descriptions
- B. Overview of Appropriations Categories