



COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION

COURT ORDER NUMBER 145669
PAGE 1 OF 9
DATE: 8/5/2025

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION TO ENTER INTO AN ADVANCED FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE WIDENING OF RM 2871 FROM IH 20 TO US 377

***** CONSENT AGENDA *****

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court consider entering into an Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the Widening of RM 2871 from IH 20 to US 377.

BACKGROUND

On March 30, 2021, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #135141, approved the 2021 Transportation Bond Program Policy (Policy), as amended. The Policy identifies three (3) main categories for the allocation of the bond funds: Call for Projects, Discretionary, and Countywide Initiatives and Partnerships (Countywide). The Countywide category, as described in the Policy, was established to advance strategic multi-jurisdictional projects that enhance leveraging opportunities. Projects may include improvements to TxDOT highways, railroad grade separations, funding participation in federal grant programs, and roadway connectivity projects that improve the overall transportation system.

The County has identified a highway improvement project described as the widening of RM 2871 which includes the widening of approximately 2.9 miles from an existing 2-lane divided roadway to a 4-lane divided roadway including shared use paths. The project improvements will include grade separation of RM 2871 and Union Pacific Railroad, including a 1200-foot long bridge, seven (7) new traffic signals, bridge class culverts on Veale Ranch Parkway, realignment of Veale Ranch Parkway Access Road and surveys for proposed right-of-way and/or easements included in the preparation of proposed right-of-way and/or easement documents. Tarrant County has requested to participate in said improvement by funding the plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E). On September 17, 2024, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #143946, entered into a professional services agreement with a design consultant in the amount of \$3,551,576 as the local government's participation in the Project.

In accordance with Government Code, Chapter 791, and Transportation Code 201.209 and Chapter 221, TxDOT is authorized to contract with municipalities and political subdivisions and has determined that Tarrant County's participation on this project is in the best interest of the citizen of the State.

Upon consideration of the draft AFA and, if approved by the court, the Transportation Department will provide notification to TxDOT staff to continue with the review process. The attached AFA is a draft to be formally signed via electronic means, following TxDOT's Contract Services Division reviewal and approval.

SUBMITTED BY	Transportation Services	PREPARED BY:	Joseph Jackson
		APPROVED BY:	Maegan South



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This agreement has been reviewed by the Auditor's Office and approved as to form by the Criminal District Attorney's Office.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact to Tarrant County for the entire project will be \$3,551,576 in 2021 TBP funds and is available in account 47800-2025 2021 TBP CWI / 6840100000 Transportation / 579061 County Projects.

CCSJ #	2855-01-029		
AFA CSJs	2855-01-029		
District #	02	AFA ID	Z00011727
Code Chart 64 #	50220		
Project Name	RM 2871; IH 20 to US377		

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TRAVIS §

**ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS
TO TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
WITH NO REQUIRED MATCH
ON-SYSTEM**

THIS AGREEMENT is made by and between the State of Texas, acting by and through the **Texas Department of Transportation** called the “State”, and the **Tarrant County**, acting by and through its duly authorized officials, called the “Local Government”. The State and Local Government shall be collectively referred to as “the parties” hereinafter.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, federal law establishes federally funded programs for transportation improvements to implement its public purposes, and

WHEREAS, Transportation Code, Chapters 201 and 221, authorize the State to lay out, construct, maintain, and operate a system of streets, roads, and highways that comprise the State Highway System; and

WHEREAS, Government Code, Chapter 791, and Transportation Code, §201.209 and Chapter 221, authorize the State to contract with municipalities and political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Commission passed Minute Order Number **116752** authorizing the State to undertake and complete a highway improvement generally described as Widening Roads by adding lanes; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government has requested that the State allow the Local Government to participate in said improvement by funding that portion of the improvement described as **reconstruction and widening of 2 lanes rural to 4 lane divided roadway with sidewalks**; and

WHEREAS, the State has determined that such participation is in the best interest of the citizens of the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual covenants and agreements of the parties, to be by them respectively kept and performed as set forth in this Agreement, it is agreed as follows:

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AGREEMENT

1. **Period of the Agreement**

This Agreement becomes effective when signed by the last party whose signing makes the Agreement fully executed. This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect until the Project has been completed and accepted by all parties or unless terminated as provided below.

2. **Project Funding and Work Responsibilities**

- A. The State will authorize the performance of only those Project items of work which the Local Government has requested and has agreed to pay for as described in Attachment A, Payment Provision and Work Responsibilities (Attachment A) which is attached to and made a part of this contract. In addition to identifying those items of work paid for by payments to the State, Attachment A also specifies those Project items of work that are the responsibility of the Local Government and will be carried out and completed by the Local Government, at no cost to the State.
- B. At least sixty (60) days prior to the date set for receipt of the construction bids, the Local Government shall remit its financial share for the State's estimated construction oversight and construction costs.
- C. In the event that the State determines that additional funding by the Local Government is required at any time during the Project, the State will notify the Local Government in writing. The Local Government shall make payment to the State within thirty (30) days from receipt of the State's written notification.
- D. Whenever funds are paid by the Local Government to the State under this Agreement, the Local Government shall remit a check or warrant made payable to the "Texas Department of Transportation" or may use the State's Automated Clearing House (ACH) system for electronic transfer of funds in accordance with instructions provided by TxDOT's Finance Division. The funds shall be deposited and managed by the State and may only be applied by the State to the Project.

3. **Right of Access**

If the Local Government is the owner of any part of the Project site, the Local Government shall permit the State or its authorized representative access to the site to perform any activities required to execute the work.

4. **Adjustments Outside the Project Site**

The Local Government will provide for all necessary right of way and utility adjustments needed for performance of the work on sites not owned or to be acquired by the State.

5. **Responsibilities of the Parties**

The State and the Local Government agree that neither party is an agent, servant, or employee of the other party and each party agrees it is responsible for its individual acts and deeds as well as the acts and deeds of its contractors, employees, representatives, and agents.

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6. Document and Information Exchange

The Local Government agrees to electronically deliver to the State all general notes, specifications, contract provision requirements and related documentation in a Microsoft® Word or similar document. If requested by the State, the Local Government will use the State's document template. The Local Government shall also provide a detailed construction time estimate including types of activities and month in the format required by the State. This requirement applies whether the local government creates the documents with its own forces or by hiring a consultant or professional provider. At the request of the State, the Local Government shall submit any information required by the State in the format directed by the State.

7. Interest

The State will not pay interest on funds provided by the Local Government. Funds provided by the Local Government will be deposited into, and retained in, the State Treasury.

8. Inspection and Conduct of Work

Unless otherwise specifically stated in Attachment A, the State will supervise and inspect all work performed hereunder and provide such engineering inspection and testing services as may be required to ensure that the Project is accomplished in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. All correspondence and instructions to the contractor performing the work will be the sole responsibility of the State. Unless otherwise specifically stated in Attachment A to this contract, all work will be performed in accordance with the *Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Highways, Streets, and Bridges* adopted by the State and incorporated in this agreement by reference, or special specifications approved by the State.

9. Increased Costs

If any existing or future local ordinances, commissioners court orders, rules, policies, or other directives, including but not limited to outdoor advertising billboards and storm water drainage facility requirements, are more restrictive than State or Federal Regulations, or if any other locally proposed changes, including but not limited to plats or replats, result in increased cost to the department for a highway improvement project, then any increased costs associated with the ordinances or changes will be paid by the Local Government. The cost of providing right of way acquired by the State shall mean the total expenses in acquiring the property interests either through negotiations or eminent domain proceedings, including but not limited to expenses related to relocation, removal, and adjustment of eligible utilities.

10. Insurance

If this Agreement authorizes the Local Government or its contractor to perform any work on State right of way, before beginning work the entity performing the work shall provide the State with a fully executed copy of the State's Form 1560 Certificate of Insurance verifying the existence of coverage in the amounts and types specified on the Certificate of Insurance for all persons and entities working on State right of way. This coverage shall be maintained until all work on the State right of way is complete. If coverage is not

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maintained, all work on State right of way shall cease immediately, and the State may recover damages and all costs of completing the work.

11. Project Maintenance

The Local Government shall be responsible for maintenance of locally owned roads and locally owned facilities after completion of the work. The State shall be responsible for maintenance of the State highway system after completion of the work if the work was on the State highway system, unless otherwise provided for in Attachment A or existing maintenance agreements with the Local Government.

12. Termination

- A. This agreement may be terminated in the following manner:
 - 1. By mutual written agreement and consent of both parties;
 - 2. By either party upon the failure of the other party to fulfill the obligations set forth in this agreement; or
 - 3. By the State if it determines that the performance of the Project is not in the best interest of the State.
- B. If the agreement is terminated in accordance with the above provisions, the Local Government will be responsible for the payment of Project costs incurred by the State on behalf of the Local Government up to the time of termination.
- C. Upon completion of the Project, the State will perform an audit of the Project costs. Any funds due to the Local Government, the State, or the Federal Government will be promptly paid by the owing party.

13. Notices

All notices to either party by the other required under this agreement shall be delivered personally or sent by certified or U.S. mail, postage prepaid or sent by electronic mail, (electronic notice being permitted to the extent permitted by law but only after a separate written consent of the parties), addressed to such party at the following addresses:

Local Government:	State:
Tarrant County ATTN: County Judge countyjudge@tarrantcountytexas.gov Fort Worth, Texas, 76196	Texas Department of Transportation ATTN: Director of Contract Services 125 E. 11 th Street Austin, TX 78701

All notices shall be deemed given on the date so delivered or so deposited in the mail, unless otherwise provided in this agreement. Either party may change the above address by sending written notice of the change to the other party. Either party may request in writing that such notices shall be delivered personally or by certified U.S. mail and such request shall be honored and carried out by the other party.

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14. Sole Agreement

In the event the terms of the agreement are in conflict with the provisions of any other existing agreements between the Local Government and the State, the latest agreement shall take precedence over the other agreements in matters related to the Project.

15. Successors and Assigns

The State and the Local Government each binds itself, its successors, executors, assigns, and administrators to the other party to this agreement and to the successors, executors, assigns, and administrators of such other party in respect to all covenants of this agreement.

16. Amendments

By mutual written consent of the parties, this agreement may be amended in writing prior to its expiration.

17. State Auditor

Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2262.154, the state auditor may conduct an audit or investigation of any entity receiving funds from the state directly under the contract or indirectly through a subcontract under the contract. Acceptance of funds directly under the contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the state auditor, under the direction of the legislative audit committee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. An entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation must provide the state auditor with access to any information the state auditor considers relevant to the investigation or audit.

18. Signatory Warranty

Each signatory warrants that the signatory has necessary authority to execute this Agreement on behalf of the entity represented.

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THIS AGREEMENT IS EXECUTED by the State and the Local Government.

THE STATE OF TEXAS	THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Signature	Signature
Typed or Printed Name	Typed or Printed Name
Typed or Printed Title	Typed or Printed Title
Date	Date

DRAFT

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**ATTACHMENT A
PAYMENT PROVISION AND WORK RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Local Government has requested to participate in the preparation of Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) for the following improvements:

- Widening FM 2817 to a 4-lane divided roadway including shared use paths.
- Grade separation of FM 2871 and UPRR including 1200' long bridge
- 7 new traffic signals
- Bridge Class Culvert 4 – 9' x 9' on Veale Ranch Parkway
- Approximately 4800 LF of retaining walls
- Approximately 500 LF of temporary retaining walls/temporary shoring for phase construction
- Realignment of Veale Ranch Parkway and Aledo Access Road
- Surveys for proposed right of way and/or easements including the preparation of proposed right of way and/or easement documents.

The Local Government will contribute the PS&E for an amount of \$3,551,576 for the Local Government's participation in the Project.

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