

**CITY OF THORNTON
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE**

A G E N D A
Council Update
<https://thorntonco.zoom.us/j/99501550780>
January 12, 2021
5:45 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND REVIEW OF UPDATE AGENDA**

- II. REVIEW OF THE FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

- III. BRIEFINGS**
 - A. COVID-19 Update (Estimated 15 Minutes)
 - B. Review of the City's Draft 2021 State Legislative Priorities (Estimated 10 Minutes)
 - C. Appointing Members to the 2021 Thornton Assistance Funds Committee (Estimated 15 Minutes)
 - D. Colorado Highway 7 Corridor Development Plan Briefing (Estimated 15 Minutes)

**Council Update
Agenda Summary
January 12, 2021**

BRIEFINGS:

A. COVID-19 Update

Staff will provide City Council with updates on the COVID-19 pandemic.

B. Review of the City's Draft 2021 State Legislative Priorities
- Robb Kolstad, Assistant City Manager

The 2021 State Legislative Priorities identifies the legislative issues of interest to the City within broad public policy areas. The Priorities sets forth the City Council's policy position in these areas in order to provide guidance in reviewing and analyzing bills that have an impact on the City's interests. The policy areas include: 2019 Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) Relief/Recovery, Housing, Transportation, Water Supply, and Home Rule and Local Control.

The General Assembly will gavel in on January 13 only so they can address urgent business, such as swearing in new members and other constitutional and statutory obligations, and will then immediately recess. Speaker-elect Garnett has indicated that the plan is to return to the full regular session on February 16 when, it is assumed, the holiday COVID-19 spike will have decreased and more Coloradans will have received the COVID vaccine. The Legislature has said that it reserves the right to come back at any time before that if there is an emergency issue that requires immediate legislative attention.

C. Appointing Members to the 2021 Thornton Assistance Funds Committee
- Seve Ghose, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Programs

The purpose of this item is for Council to appoint members to the 2021 Thornton Assistance Funds (TAF) Committee. This committee consists of a minimum of five and a maximum of seven positions. Council, as a whole, appoints the two members who must have expertise in a specific area: one member must have financial analysis experience and the other must have human services experience. The Councilmembers from each of the Wards appoint a committee member that represents their respective Ward and the Mayor can appoint a member to the Committee. Eight Thornton residents applied for the 2021 TAF Committee.

D. Colorado Highway 7 Corridor Development Plan Briefing
- Jeff Coder, Deputy City Manager of City Development

Staff will be briefing Council on the Colorado Highway 7 (CO 7) Corridor Development Plan (CDP) and asking for direction on whether or not to provide written agreement in support of the CDP. The Colorado Department of

Transportation (CDOT) will be requesting written confirmation from each jurisdiction along the CO 7 corridor, between the cities of Brighton and Boulder, stating that they agree to the CDP following the presentation at the CO 7 Coalition meeting, being scheduled in late January 2021. CDOT developed a CDP to implement the Denver Regional Council of Governments' (DRCOG) approved CO 7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan Project. The CDP outlines how the jurisdictions along the CO 7 corridor and CDOT will conduct the Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan Project. Staff provided input and review of the CDP through the CO 7 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

COUNCIL UPDATE COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: January 12, 2021	Agenda Item: A	Agenda Location: N/A	Goal(s):	Legal Review: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Reading <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Reading
Subject: COVID-19 Update					
Recommended by: Kevin S. Woods <i>KW</i> Approved by: Kevin S. Woods <i>KW</i>					Ordinance previously introduced by: <hr/>
Presenter(s): Kevin Woods, City Manager					

SYNOPSIS:

Staff will provide City Council with updates on the COVID-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for informational purposes only.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

None.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for informational purposes only.

BACKGROUND (ANALYSIS/NEXT STEPS/HISTORY): (includes previous City Council action)

COUNCIL UPDATE COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: January 12, 2021	Agenda Item: B	Agenda Location: N/A	Goal(s):	Legal Review: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Reading <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Reading
Subject: Review of the City's Draft 2021 State Legislative Priorities					
Recommended by: Robb Kolstad <i>RK</i>				Approved by: Kevin S. Woods <i>KW</i>	
Presenter(s): Jon Whiting, Senior Management Analyst Amber Valdez, City Lobbyist				Ordinance previously introduced by: _____	

SYNOPSIS:

The 2021 State Legislative Priorities identifies the legislative issues of interest to the City within broad public policy areas. The Priorities sets forth the City Council's policy position in these areas in order to provide guidance in reviewing and analyzing bills that have an impact on the City's interests. The policy areas include: 2019 Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) Relief/Recovery, Housing, Transportation, Water Supply and Quality, and Home Rule and Local Control.

The General Assembly will gavel in on January 13 only so they can address urgent business, such as swearing in new members and other constitutional and statutory obligations, and will then immediately recess. Speaker-elect Garnett has indicated that the plan is to return to the full regular session on February 16 when, it is assumed, the holiday COVID-19 spike will have decreased and more Coloradans will have received the COVID vaccine. The Legislature has said that it reserves the right to come back at any time before that if there is an emergency issue that requires immediate legislative attention.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Alternative No. 1, bring forward a resolution, at the January 26, 2021 Council meeting, that approves the 2021 State Legislative Priorities in order to provide general direction to the City's Lobbyist, City staff, and legislators representing the City during the 2021 Legislative Session.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

The budget to contract with the City Lobbyist is \$30,000/year.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Bring forward a resolution, at the January 26, 2021 Council meeting, that approves the 2021 State Legislative Priorities in order to provide general direction to the City's Lobbyist, City staff, and legislators representing the City during the 2021 Legislative Session.
2. Do not bring forward a resolution and instead rely on the Colorado Municipal League to represent the City's legislative interests as it relates to municipal issues and to rely on the Water Congress to represent the City's legislative interests as it relates to water-related issues (water rights, water quality, etc.).

BACKGROUND (ANALYSIS/NEXT STEPS/HISTORY): (includes previous City Council action)

On January 14, 2020, Council approved a resolution adopting the 2020 State Legislative Priorities.

2021 State Legislative Priorities

January 12, 2021

Agenda

1. Purpose
2. Background
3. Schedule / Focus Areas
4. City of Thornton State Legislative Priorities
5. Conclusion

Purpose

To provide Council with an overview of the 2021 General Assembly and seek Council's input/support to move forward with the 2021 City of Thornton State Legislative Priorities.

Background

Historically, Council adopts a set of State Legislative Priorities in order to provide general direction to the City's Lobbyist, City staff, and legislators representing the City during the Legislative Session.

Schedule / Focus Areas

- 2021 General Assembly schedule
- Legislative focus areas during this year's session

City of Thornton Recommended State Legislative Priorities

1. COVID-19 Relief / Recovery
2. Housing
3. Transportation
4. Water Supply and Quality
5. Home Rule and Local Control

Conclusion

- Staff is seeking Council's input/support to move forward with the 2021 City of Thornton State Legislative Priorities.
- Bring forward a resolution, at the January 26, 2021 Council meeting, formally adopting the 2021 State Legislative Priorities.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY'S 2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES.

WHEREAS, during the 2021 Colorado Legislative Session, the City Council desires to provide input to the Senators and Representatives who represent the City's constituents pertaining to the development of laws that will have a significant effect on the City's ability to provide a wide variety of services to its constituents as authorized through its Charter; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Legislative Priorities is the document that sets forth the City Council's policy position on broad public policy areas that are of concern to the City; and

WHEREAS, proposed legislation in these policy areas will be reviewed in concert with the positions identified in the 2021 Legislative Priorities; and

WHEREAS, during the 2021 Legislative Session, proposed legislation in other areas of concern to the City will be monitored and reviewed with City Council when appropriate; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council to take positions of support or opposition to proposed legislation impacting the City and lobby the legislature based on these positions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the City's 2021 Legislative Priorities as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein are hereby approved.
2. That by adopting the 2021 Legislative Priorities, City Council may support or oppose proposed legislation consistent with these positions and direct staff and/or consultants to lobby on their behalf.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Thornton, Colorado, on _____, 2021.

CITY OF THORNTON, COLORADO

Jan Kulmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristen N. Rosenbaum, City Clerk

DRAFT

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF THORNTON 2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2019 Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) Relief/Recovery

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the City of Thornton community at virtually every level. The City supports legislation that seeks to assist those who are in most need of direct support.

- Support legislative efforts that would provide assistance to residents, businesses, non-profits, and municipalities that have been impacted by the COVID-19 virus.
- Support legislative efforts that would provide resources to municipalities administering COVID-19 testing and vaccines.
- Support extending State moratoriums on evictions and foreclosures, as well as the collection of late fees, for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Housing

The City recognizes that the affordability and availability of housing is integral to a diverse and vibrant community.

Policy Positions:

- Support legislative efforts to increase the availability of affordable owner-occupied and multifamily housing consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan.
- Support measures to increase State funding for low- to moderate-income affordable housing for residents earning at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI), as well as supporting measures to increase State funding for attainable workforce housing for residents earning up to 120% of the AMI.
- Support legislative efforts that allocate resources to homelessness prevention and diversion, including emergency mortgage/rent and utility assistance, foreclosure/eviction prevention, legal and educational services, and housing support for victims of domestic violence.
- Support legislative efforts that standardize when late fees can be imposed on tenants and legislation that sets limits on the total amount of late fees allowed to be charged.
- Support the allocation of resources to residents who are typically excluded from other assistance-based programs, such as undocumented residents.

**CITY OF THORNTON
2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

Transportation

A reliable multimodal transportation network is necessary to enhance the economic vitality of the community and to improve the quality of life for City of Thornton residents.

Policy Positions:

- Support the concept that safety is the first and highest priority in allocating State transportation funds from either the State General Fund or the Colorado Department of Transportation dedicated funds.
- Support State maintenance of State roads and highways; do not shift the burden of maintaining the roads to local governments without an appropriate level of compensation.
- Support the concept that interstate highways are not the same as State highways. Construction and maintenance, including street lights, should use 100% State funds.
- Support an appropriate State-wide sustainable transportation funding and financing plan that not only funds repair and maintenance needs, but also commits to improvements and expansions of the multimodal transportation and mobility network.
- Oppose any legislative attempt to repeal the Funding Advancements for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery Act of 2009 (FASTER).
- Support the concept that higher frequency transit, higher geographical transit service coverage, improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and improved capacity help reduce greenhouse gases and other transportation generated pollutants.
- Support the concept that all residents and businesses currently shouldering taxation for the Regional Transportation District (RTD) receive all associated services and the full, promised benefit of the completion of the entire system.
- Support the concept that if RTD refuses to provide adequate service to an area, that Bustang or others may provide transit service with RTD providing, at no cost, connection points/bays with the RTD system.
- Support legislation that improves RTD's transparency, public input, and accountability.
- Support the concept that State transit funds must be equally distributed in the metro area.

CITY OF THORNTON 2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Water Supply and Quality

Thornton has been responsible and proactive in developing its water supply over many decades. The region faces significant water supply challenges now and in the future, and water suppliers need more tools, not more hurdles, to help meet those challenges. And, in order to continue to provide safe, high quality water to customers, the City needs to protect the quality of its water supplies.

Policy Positions:

- Support measures to facilitate efficient and streamlined local permitting processes for water projects.
- Oppose the expansion of established rules or adding new restrictions pertaining to the development and transfer of water supplies, including the transfer of water between basins.
- Support measures to facilitate the implementation of Colorado's Water Plan.
- Support providing tools that allow for sharing of water supplies among water rights owners for multiple uses, including, but not limited to, municipal, agricultural, and environmental uses.
- Support measures that ensure water quality by requiring those who discharge into rivers and streams to have the burden of keeping them clean.
- Support measures that provide flexibility in the regulatory framework to allow for more cost effective water quality improvements using collaborative local approaches.

Home Rule and Local Control

The citizens of the City of Thornton adopted the Home Rule Charter in 1967, which establishes the power of local self-government to the City pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Colorado. As such, Thornton has the responsibility and authority to adopt rules and regulations that govern the operation of this community in the interest of its citizens.

Policy Positions:

- Oppose efforts to diminish municipal Home Rule powers.
- Oppose unfunded mandates at the local level.
- Oppose any legislation that reduces the City's ability to successfully develop or redevelop Thornton, such as new restrictions on the use of tax increment financing.
- Oppose criminal justice or education related legislation that will have a detrimental impact on municipal court services.

COUNCIL UPDATE COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: January 12, 2021	Agenda Item: C	Agenda Location: N/A	Goal(s):	Legal Review: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Reading <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Reading
Subject: Appointing Members to the 2021 Thornton Assistance Funds Committee					
Recommended by: Seve Ghose <i>SG</i>				Approved by: Kevin S. Woods <i>KW</i>	
Presenter(s): Jaylin Stotler, Community Connections Manager				Ordinance previously introduced by: _____	

SYNOPSIS:

The purpose of this item is for Council to appoint members to the 2021 Thornton Assistance Funds (TAF) Committee. This committee consists of a minimum of five and a maximum of seven positions. Council, as a whole, appoints the two members who must have expertise in a specific area: one member must have financial analysis experience and the other must have human services experience. The Councilmembers from each of the Wards appoint a committee member that represents their respective Ward and the Mayor can appoint a member to the Committee. Eight Thornton residents applied for the 2021 TAF Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Council appoint seven residents to the 2021 TAF Committee to allow as many residents to participate in this process as possible. Staff recommends:

- Appoint Michael Robbins as the At-Large Financial Representative since he has the most experience with evaluating the financial health of nonprofit organizations.
- Appoint Danielle DeSantis as the At-Large Human Services Representative since she has the broadest experience working in human services and has a Master’s Degree in Public Policy with a focus on Urban Education.
- Councilmembers from each Ward and the Mayor appoint committee members from the remaining pool of candidates:

Sarah Craig	Ward 1
Ruth Nester	Ward 2
Darin Raaf	Ward 2
Geri Lameman	Ward 3
Joshua Craver-DeCredico	Ward 4
Terry Traver	Ward 4

BUDGET/STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

The 2021 Budget allocated \$150,000 for TAF.

ALTERNATIVES:

The table below lists the candidates and which positions each are eligible to hold.

Name	Previous Experience with TAF	Ward	At-Large Financial	At-Large Human Services	Mayoral
Sarah Craig		1			✓
Danielle DeSantis	No	2		✓	✓
Ruth Nester	Yes – 2020	2			✓
Darin Raaf	No	2			✓
Geri Lameman	No	3			✓
Joshua Craver-DeCredico	No	4			✓
Michael Robbins	No	4	✓		✓
Terry Traver	No	4			✓

CANDIDATES:

Sarah Craig –Eligible for Ward 1 or Mayoral positions.

Sarah has an Undergraduate Degree in Secondary Education and Spanish Literature and a Master’s Degree in Development Practice, which focuses on addressing sustainability. She works as a Spanish teacher at a school in southwest Denver, where she serves a lower income community, and has worked on improving sustainability in communities, including supporting an organization called Beyond Chacay, in Ecuador, that helps to craft sustainable tourist destinations. Sarah is a Colorado native that is committed to addressing sustainability within the community for all.

Danielle DeSantis – Eligible for Ward 2, At-Large Human Services, or Mayoral positions.

Danielle has a Master’s Degree in Public Policy with a focus on Urban Education. She began her career as a teacher and then transferred to working for nonprofit organizations for the past 10 years. She interned at the Rhode Island Treasurer’s Office in Leadership for Educational Equity Policy and Advocacy Fellowship. Danielle is currently a community organizer, coordinating services. She serves on the steering committee for a coalition of education nonprofits working within the Denver Public Schools. She is also on the social impact board of Lost City, a restaurant in Denver driven to pay it forward with internship programs for immigrants, and programs to help distribute food to families impacted by Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) at no cost.

Ruth Nester – Eligible for Ward 2, At-Large Human Services, or Mayoral positions.

Ruth is a Colorado native that has lived in the same Thornton home for the past 19 years. She has served as the president of her Homeowners Association (HOA) for the entire 19 years of residency. For over eight years, Ruth volunteered for the Boys and Girls Club of Denver, serving in the capacity of adult oversight for the Bully-Out Program, oversaw the fundraising efforts of the club, and provided mentoring for students between the ages of seven and 18. Through that connection and with Denver

Public Schools, Ruth became a Certified Suicide Prevention Counselor. Ruth has nearly 30 years of experience in office management, accounting, and bookkeeping, with nearly 20 of those years in the architecture/engineering fields. She was a 2020 TAF Committee member.

Darin Raaf – Eligible for Ward 2 or Mayoral positions.

Currently, Darin is the Senior Policy Director for the Senate Democrats. He volunteers at a big cat rescue in Aurora. Darin was the Chief Financial Officer for Sheffield Homes. He has an Associate's Degree in Accounting, Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science, and a Juris Doctor. Darin shared that most of his nonprofit experience comes from collaboration with his legislature partners.

Joshua Craver-DeCredico – Eligible for Ward 4 or Mayoral positions.

Joshua has been a high school coach for eight years. He has experience with high school budgeting and has an Italian/American organization in Thornton that covers the northern part of Colorado called Mio Famiglia Italiano DeCredico Foundation. He also created a nonprofit organization that finds donations to support students of Adams 12 and Thornton. While he has not worked in the financial industry, he does oversee the budget for the Mio Famiglia Italiano DeCredico Foundation. Currently, he is a Dean of Students at Jefferson County Public Schools.

Michael Robbins – Eligible for Ward 4, At-Large Financial, or Mayoral positions.

Michael has been working as a project manager, with a \$10 billion company, for 15 years. He has managed 65 employees at a forging plant in Mexico and was responsible for a \$3 million budget associated with the machining operations. He is now retired and is the president of the Eastlake Shores' HOA, which is currently developing its budget of \$143,000.

Terry Traver – Eligible for Ward 4 or Mayoral positions.

Terry is a retired supervisor from the meter shop for the City. Terry has experience volunteering with over 23 programs and events that include: food distribution at food banks, community resources, mediation services, City events, Red Cross Disaster Team member, and as a member of the City's 2020 Comprehensive Plan committee. Of the 33 organizations that were funded with TAF in 2020, Terry has had experience working with 18 of them.

BACKGROUND (ANALYSIS/NEXT STEPS/HISTORY): (includes previous City Council action)

The TAF program was established in 1983 to provide grants to nonprofit organizations that help City residents meet their basic needs and enhance the residents' ability to be self-sufficient. The TAF Committee is a citizen advisory group that reviews the grant applications for the program and provides funding recommendations to Council.

The TAF Committee will kick off on February 4, and staff will provide the Committee with the 2021 nonprofit applications and give guidance to the Committee on what to focus on in reviewing the grant applications. The Committee will then meet each Thursday evening, for approximately six weeks, to interview representatives from the nonprofit organizations that applied for funding and determine its recommendations on which agencies should receive funding and the amount of funding that the selected agencies should receive. The Committee will present its recommendation to Council in April; Council will formally approve the final grant awards shortly thereafter.

HISTORY:

In October 2020, advertisement to serve on the TAF Committee started, with an online and offline (non-internet) marketing approach. Information was posted on the City's website, the City's social media platforms, and promoted with more than 400 partners in an email. Additionally, staff sent an email to the residents who had sat on the TAF Committee in the last three years. Information was shared in the October-December edition of the City Voice and recruitment letters were sent by US mail to over 70 area businesses and schools. The deadline to apply was originally December 18, however, it was extended to December 29, to encourage applicants from Wards 1 and 3 to apply.

June 25, 2013 – Council amended the charge for the TAF to state:

“The City Council views the purpose of the Thornton Assistance Funds to be used to help Thornton residents and families meet their basic needs and enhance their ability to be self-sufficient. Basic needs are identified as food, housing, health and medical, or human services. Helping people move from relying on private or public assistance to providing for one's own needs is important for the long-term success of Thornton residents. Therefore, programs that enhance Thornton residents' ability to be self-sufficient beyond meeting their identified basic needs are also eligible for funding. Program applications will be evaluated by their demonstrated benefit to the Thornton community, with priority placed on programs that provide the greatest impact to Thornton residents. The City Council requests that the Thornton Assistance Funds Committee base their recommendations as to the allocation of the funds upon this charge.”

February 12, 2013 – Council amended Resolution C.D. No. 92-005 to allow for a minimum of five and a maximum of seven Thornton residents to serve on TAF. The amendment clarified that the member with financial analysis experience and other member with human services experience may also serve as a Ward or Mayoral representative. The amendment stated that all members shall be designated by the City Council annually.

October 11, 2011 – Council approved recruiting members for TAF through the Board and Commission application process.

January 27, 1992 – Council approved Resolution C.D. No. 92-005, which defines the Committee's role to annually review financial requests from charitable or service organizations and make recommendations for funding to City Council. It reduced the composition of the Committee from nine members to seven members: one member designated by the two councilmembers representing each Ward, one member designated by the Mayor, one member with financial analysis experience, and one member with human services experience.

August 25, 1986 – Council approved Resolution C.D. No. 86-274 formally established the financial assistance program and a committee to review the requests for financial assistance from charitable or service organizations.

Resolution C.D. No. 84-548 created a 60-day, interim citizen committee to work with staff to determine how to separate requests for financial assistance into categories and develop criteria for levels of contributions.

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January 11, 1982 – Council approved Resolution C.D. No. 82-006 established a program to assist nonprofit organizations that help Thornton residents meet their basic needs.

2021 Thornton Assistance Funds Committee

Purpose:

For Council to appoint members to the 2021 Thornton Assistance Funds (TAF) Committee.

Agenda:

- Brief History of TAF
- Staff Recommendations for the At-Large Financial and Human Services Positions
- Ward Positions Appointed by Council
- Council Direction

History of TAF

- Established in 1983
- Grants for nonprofit organizations that help City residents meet their basic needs and enhance the residents' ability to be self-sufficient.
- Basic needs are seen as food, housing, health, and human services.
- TAF Committee makes funding recommendations to Council

2021 Thornton Assistance Funds Committee

Five to Seven Positions

Positions appointed by the entire Council:

- One At-Large Human Services position
- One At-Large Financial position

Positions appointed specific Councilmembers:

- One Ward 1 resident appointed by Ward 1 Councilmembers
- One Ward 2 resident appointed by Ward 2 Councilmembers
- One Ward 3 resident appointed by Ward 3 Councilmember
- One Ward 4 resident appointed by Ward 4 Councilmembers
- One Thornton resident appointed by the Mayor

Candidates for the 2021 Committee

Name	Previous Experience with TAF	Ward	At-Large Financial	At-Large Human Services	Mayoral
Sarah Craig	No	1			✓
Danielle DeSantis	No	2		✓	✓
Ruth Nester	Yes – 2020	2			✓
Darin Raaf	No	2			✓
Geri Lameman	No	3			✓
Joshua Craver-DeCredico	No	4			✓
Michael Robbins	No	4	✓		✓
Terry Traver	No	4			✓

Council Direction

- Focus Areas
 - Food
 - Housing
 - Health
 - Human Services
- Other Considerations & Direction
 - COVID Response
 - Thornton location
- Discussion

COUNCIL UPDATE COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: January 12, 2021	Agenda Item: D	Agenda Location: N/A	Goal(s):	Legal Review: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Reading <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Reading
Subject: Colorado Highway 7 Corridor Development Plan Briefing					
Recommended by: Jeff Coder <i>JBC</i>				Approved by: Kevin S. Woods <i>KW</i>	
Presenter(s): Kent Moorman, Regional Transportation Engineer					Ordinance previously introduced by: _____

SYNOPSIS:

Staff will be briefing Council on the Colorado Highway 7 (CO 7) Corridor Development Plan (CDP) and asking for direction on whether or not to provide written agreement in support of the CDP. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) will be requesting written confirmation from each jurisdiction along the CO 7 corridor, between the cities of Brighton and Boulder, stating that they agree to the CDP following the presentation at the CO 7 Coalition meeting, being scheduled in late January 2021. CDOT developed a CDP to implement the Denver Regional Council of Governments' (DRCOG) approved CO 7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan Project. The CDP outlines how the jurisdictions along the CO 7 corridor and CDOT will conduct the Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan Project. Staff provided input and review of the CDP through the CO 7 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Alternative No. 1, direct staff to draft a letter to CDOT for the Mayor's signature that confirms agreement with the CO 7 CDP, after the January 2021 CO 7 Coalition meeting.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

The CO 7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan Project funds from the City were provided in 2020. Staff continues to participate in the TAC and will be reviewing the Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Direct staff to draft a letter to CDOT for the Mayor's signature that confirms agreement with the CO 7 CDP, after the January 2021 CO 7 Coalition meeting.
2. Do not agree to the CDP. CDOT will most likely redirect funding to other portions of CO 7 outside the City.

BACKGROUND (ANALYSIS/NEXT STEPS/HISTORY): (includes previous City Council action)

CDOT now refers to State highways as Colorado highways. Therefore, State Highway 7 is the same CO 7.

As part of the CO 7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan, a CDP was developed to outline how the jurisdictions and CDOT will conduct the Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan Project scheduled to be complete in late 2023. In Thornton, the CDP proposes to provide preliminary

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and environmental plans to a 30% level between York Street and Yosemite Street, as shown in the plan below in areas labeled I, J, and K. The area between York Street and I-25, labeled G and H below, already has preliminary plans.

Completion of the Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan Project will allow the City to compete for future grants and funding, preserve right-of-way, and allow development to build the roadway to the correct alignment.

Council approved the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the CO 7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan on February 25, 2020 (Resolution C.D. No. 2020-041). The IGA provides funds for the Project through Broomfield, who is the lead agency, from the jurisdictions along CO 7. These funds were received by Broomfield through the DRCOG Transportation Improvement Plan grant. The City budgeted and paid its portion of the Project in 2020. CDOT, through Broomfield, is coordinating the design of the Project. The TAC consists of technical staff from the CO 7 Coalition, the Regional Transportation District (RTD), Northwest Chamber, and the University of Colorado.

CO 7 is listed in the Regional and Subregional Transportation Priorities resolution (Resolution C.D. No. 2017-112), adopted in 2017 by City Council.

The City is a founding member of the CO 7 Coalition. Approximately 25% of CO 7, between the cities of Brighton and Boulder, is in Thornton.



Colorado Highway 7 Corridor Development Plan Briefing

Purpose

To receive Council direction regarding agreement to the Colorado Highway 7 (CO 7) Corridor Development Plan (CDP) which is part of the CO 7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan

Agenda

- CO 7 Coalition
- Previous Action and CDP Development
- Action Needed

CO 7 Coalition, Previous Action, and CDP Development

- The City is a founding member of coalition
- Council approved the Intergovernmental Agreement on February 25, 2020 for the CO 7 Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan
- CDP outlines how to complete the Preliminary and Environmental Engineering Plan

CO 7 Corridor Development Recommended Plan

Recommended Plan (Proposed Actions) for the Project



KEY

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Section of Independent Utility (SIU) | Priority 1 Proposed Actions |
| Intersections | Concept Study |
| BRT Stations | Preliminary Engineering (Level 1) |
| Bridge Replacement | Intersection |
| | BRT Stations |

Action Needed

- Receive Council direction on whether or not to provide written agreement with the CO 7 CDP
 - If yes, staff recommends City Council approve providing the Colorado Department of Transportation written confirmation agreeing with the CO 7 CDP, after the January 2021 CO 7 Coalition Meeting
 - If no, no further action is needed