January 24, 2022

Mr. J. Bruce Bugg, Jr.
Chairman, Texas Transportation Commission
Texas Department of Transportation
125 East 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

Subject: Broadway Avenue (SL 368) IH 35 to Burr Road
CSJ No. 0016-08-034

Dear Mr. Bugg:

The agenda for the upcoming January 27th meeting of the Texas Transportation Commission (the Commission) includes Item #9 in which the Commission will consider rescinding minute orders previously approved in 2014 and 2015. These minute orders effectively transferred jurisdiction of a portion of SL 368 (“Broadway Avenue”) from the state system to the City of San Antonio. The proposed rescission would be detrimental to the City’s transportation plan and would adversely affect a project approved by the City’s taxpayers through a bond election.

There have been many actions over the last several years since the minute orders, including the attached letter of commitment dated December 16, 2016 and signed by TxDOT and the City. A summary of the history of this project is also attached. Due to the years of design and development work and the amount of funds that have been committed to this project by the City we are urgently asking that TxDOT postpone consideration of Item #9 to provide the City with a reasonable opportunity to further discuss the Broadway Avenue project with TxDOT leadership. Given the nature and scope of the project, the Commission should allow the City and TxDOT to have substantive discussion before a potential rescission.

The City has been working with TxDOT on the implementation of this project over the past six years. Consequently, it is imperative that the City be given the opportunity to present TxDOT staff with all relevant information on the Broadway Avenue project prior to any action by the Commission. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss this topic.

Sincerely,

Erik Walsh
City Manager

Cc: Alvin New, Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission
Laura Ryan, Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission
Robert C. Vaughn, Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commissioner
Rod Sanchez, Assistant City Manager
Razi Hosseini, P.E., R.P.L.S., Director/City Engineer
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
TRANSPORTATION & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

December 16, 2016

Mario R. Jorge, P.E.
San Antonio District Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation,
4615 NW Loop 410
San Antonio, TX 78229-0928

Dear Mario:

Thank you for the continued partnership between the City of San Antonio and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). We look forward to working with you on projects outlined in the City’s proposed 2017 General Obligation (GO) Bond Program.

The proposed 2017 GO Bond Program is the largest in the City’s history at $850 million and includes five categories: Streets, Bridges & Sidewalks; Drainage & Flood Control; Parks, Recreation & Open Space; Facility Improvements; and Neighborhood Improvements. Project recommendations from the five Community Bond Committees will be finalized by mid-December 2016 and forwarded to City Council for approval in January 2017. City Council intends to call the election in February 2017 and the public vote will be held on May 6, 2017.

In order for the projects listed below to be eligible for inclusion in the 2017 GO Bond Program, the City must have a level of commitment from the partnering agency, TxDOT, to complete the projects as a legitimate public purpose, as agreed to with the City, and identified under the bond program. If the projects pass as part of the 2017 Bond Program, a Funding Agreement outlining the details and requirements of both parties (City and TxDOT) will be coordinated, agreed to, and presented to the Texas Transportation Commission and City Council for approval.

The bond funds are to be used solely to accomplish a municipal public purpose. To ensure the accomplishment of the projects as a legitimate public purpose, the City provides for your consideration the following summary of the projects.

1604 and Bulverde Road Turnarounds
- City would provide bond funds in an amount up to $500,000 to TxDOT and TxDOT would fund the remaining to ensure design and construction of the turnarounds under the Loop 1604 at Bulverde Road intersections.

Wurzbach Corridor Improvements
- City would provide bond funds in an amount up to $2,000,000 and TxDOT would leverage City funds and an additional $8,000,000 awarded in Surface Transportation Program Metropolitan Mobility (STPMM) funds to seek additional funding towards innovative improvements at key intersections along the Wurzbach Corridor.
Broadway Complete Street (Houston to Hildebrand)
- City would provide bond funds in an amount up to $43,000,000 and TxDOT would provide $5,000,000 towards the development and implementation of a complete street along Broadway Corridor to include roadway reconstruction, curbs, sidewalks, driveway approaches, bicycle amenities, lighting, drainage and traffic improvements, as needed.

Probandt Improvements (Alamo to Highway 90)
- City would provide bond funds in an amount up to $3,000,000 and TxDOT would coordinate with the City on potential turnback and funding towards necessary improvements to meet City’s requirements along Probandt that may include pedestrian, drainage and traffic improvements.

Roosevelt Avenue Corridor Enhancements
- City would provide bond funds in an amount up to $8,000,000 and TxDOT would coordinate with the City on potential turnback and funding towards necessary improvements to meet City’s requirements along Roosevelt Avenue from Highway 90 to Loop 410 in the World Heritage area that may include pedestrian, street, drainage and traffic enhancements.
- City would provide bond funds in an amount up to $7,000,000 and TxDOT would coordinate with the City on potential turnback and funding towards necessary improvements to meet City’s requirements along Roosevelt Avenue and St. Mary’s from IH-10 to St. Mary’s UPRR Crossing that may include pedestrian, bicycle, street, landscaping and ADA improvements under the UPRR bridge structure.

North New Braunfels Phasing Report
- City would provide bond funds in an amount up to $300,000 and TxDOT would coordinate with City to expand the scope of the current TxDOT drainage study along Broadway within the City of Alamo Heights to account for upstream flow along North New Braunfels.

The City believes that the projects described above accomplishes the public purpose by providing transportation and connectivity, while contributing to the community health, safety and wellness, through a strategic partnering approach and represents a lawful expenditure of City bond proceeds. By signing below, you agree with the general scope of the projects, as a required public purpose, and agree to work with the City on the required Funding Agreements after the May 6, 2017 vote. However, should the projects listed above not be approved as part of the 2017 GO Bond Program, or should the characteristics of the project change in such a way as to no longer accomplish a municipal public purpose or no longer satisfy all applicable Federal tax exempt requirements, the City shall have no obligation to fund the projects.

I look forward to receiving this signed letter so we can have an agreed upon approach by the end of the calendar year. In the meantime if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly to discuss.

Sincerely,

Mike Finbog, P.E.
Director/City Engineer

Mario R. Jorge, P.E.
San Antonio District Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
This document provides an executive summary and timeline of events for the City of San Antonio concerning the Broadway Avenue (SL 368) IH 35 to Burr Road project, locally known as the Broadway Project.

The memo will inform and compile the reasoning and history of the project for justification to approve and continue with the proposed project through City of San Antonio and City of Alamo Heights. The City of San Antonio has been working with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) San Antonio District staff on the turn back of Broadway Avenue from IH 35 to Burr Road at the city limit since 2014 with the approval of a city wide turnback proposal. With Public Works recently being informed of the new direction from TxDOT regarding turn back projects with Local Governments (LG’s). TxDOT recently has taken the position that any roadways under TxDOT control that are planned to be turned back to an LG would not be allowed to reduce the number of existing traffic lanes going forward.

**HISTORY**

The City of San Antonio’s development of the plans for Broadway have been underway since 2016 and envision transforming that corridor into a multi-modal, urban street to highly increase safety for all modes of transportation, serving the community and stakeholders in the area. This vision for this urban street corridor requires the reduction of two driving lanes out of the existing six lane corridor to accommodate wider pedestrian pathways and include protected and separated bike facilities as well as landscaping improvements for shade.

**IMPACTS**

The direction from TxDOT compromises the long-initiated plan that has been in development for over six years and included multiple public meetings and input from stakeholders and interested parties regarding this corridor. We believe our plans for Broadway will create a much safer street for all users, offers more multimodal options, and is a more appropriate design for the current use of this street with the many cultural, recreational, and educational institutions on Broadway. The transformational project will also spur significant economic development along this corridor generating jobs in the short and long term as well as increased tax revenues.
BROADWAY CORRIDOR TxDOT KEY DATES & EVENTS

2014
January
• Interlocal Agreement Turnback Ordinance with TXDOT for the City to assume turn back responsibility was approved by Council
• The inclusion of this project in the current Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2019-2022.
• Planning for the Broadway corridor included the River North Master Plan adopted in 2010, the 2011 City of San Antonio Bike Plan, The Midtown Brackenridge Master Plan in 2011, the 2012 Downtown Transportation Study approved by council, and the Midtown Regional Center Plan adopted in 2019. All are consistent with the current concept for Broadway.

2016
January
• Broadway cultural Corridor Tour and Kick-off Meeting

March
• Broadway Cultural Corridor Charrette: Design Charette for Broadway concept with TxDOT

April
• Broadway funded and added to AAMPO TIP: IH 35 to Burr Rd, reduced from six lanes to 4 travel lanes

2017
May
• The voters approved the City of San Antonio’s 2017-2022 Bond program which included local funding for the Broadway project.
• The proposed design of Broadway with the repurposing of lanes will allow for a much safer street for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.
• The fewer vehicular lanes allow for shorter pedestrian crossings and opportunities for refuge in medians as well.

2018
April
• CoSA hires consultant, IDCUS, for schematic plan development
• Since 2016 there has been an exhaustive public engagement process for the Broadway corridor with over 60 meetings.

2019
January
• Upper Broadway Preliminary Schematic Review Meeting- TxDOT Staff included

March
• Schematic Submittal to TxDOT for Reviews: IDCUS worked on schematic submittal

July
• Upper Broadway Preliminary Schematic Review Meeting: TxDOT Staff included
2020
May
- Schematic Submittal to TxDOT Review Meeting: IDCUS worked on schematic submittal

June
- PS&E began on the Design and Plans on Broadway Corridor

2021
January
- 30% CoSA Upper Broadway Review Meeting
- 30% DDRT

February
- 30% DSRT

March
- Pavement Concept Design Conference (PDCC): TxDOT requested meeting to find savings in the pavement design

May
- PS&E submittal to TxDOT 60% Review
- Updated Schematic Submittal: this update consisted of where bike lanes were put on the same level as sidewalks

June
- 60% CoSA Upper Broadway Review Meeting

July
- 60% DDRT: Schematic comments were received from the District Office
- Schematic comments received from DES
- 69% DSRT
- CoSA responded to District’s comments

September
- CoSA met with District to discuss responses back by Division
- CoSA send district final responses to be sent back to Division
- VE Study Coordination Meeting

November
- Submitted VE Pre-Study Information
- VE Study Cancelled
- The Broadway segment from Mulberry to Burr Road was recently approved for funding in the latest MPO call for projects under CMAQ funding. Our plan for urbanizing the street and creating a multimodal corridor is specifically consistent with the type of funding indicated with the MPO selection.
- The project schematic is currently in final reviews at TXDOT Division offices and is considered 95% complete
- The design and PS&E for Broadway construction from IH 35 to Mulberry is currently at 70% complete and includes several milestone reviews with the San Antonio District office.
- To date the City has expended over $3.0 Million towards the development of this design over the last 5 years.
MAP/RENDERING

BROADWAY STREET CORRIDOR
SEGMENT MAP | 3.1 MILES

NORTH OF JOSEPHINE
## FUNDING SOURCES

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## CONCLUSION

The City and our partners in this project are requesting that due to the long-term planning that has occurred on this corridor and the amount of time and funds invested in the development thus far, the City should be allowed to continue the design of the project to satisfy the goals mutually developed with the public and area stakeholders. This is a critical and transformational project that will generate very significant economic development along the corridor and nearby streets as well.