

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION REQUEST

Please email requests to Angela Casias
at Angela.Casias@DenverGov.org by 12:00 pm on Monday.

Date of Request: May 26, 2015

Please mark one: Bill Request or Resolution Request

Is this request: A new contract* A contract amendment* or Neither

*If this request is a contract or an amendment, is it:

A revenue agreement or An expenditure agreement or An Intergovernmental agreement

Contract Control Number: **201522456**

Contract Terms/Dates: **Execution plus 25 years**

Costs (if this is a contract amendment please include the original cost, additional cost and new total. *Failure to provide this information may delay processing*): **Drainage project estimated at \$134 Million to be shared by CCD & CDOT, \$26.8M** upfront by CCD with the remainder of the City's share to be paid in the future through the Wastewater Fund; Additional Transportation elements will be funded as set forth in the IGA under future agreements.

1. **Bill Description for the City Council Agenda:** (please give a one sentence description of the ordinance request. Describe if the request is a contract, amendment, lease, grant, change to code, rezoning, etc. and any other information that Council needs to approve the request)

Intergovernmental Agreement between the City, CDOT, the High Performance Transportation Enterprise ("HPTE") and the Bridge Enterprise ("BE") regarding Montclair and Park Hill basin drainage improvements and I-70 transportation enhancements.

2. **Requesting Agency:** Public Works

3. **Contact Person:**

- **Name:** Lesley Thomas, City Engineer
- **Phone:** 720-865-8719
- **Email:** Lesley.thomas@denvergov.org

4. **Contact Person:** (Please list the person who will read this item at Mayor Council and attend first and second reading to answer questions)

- **Name:** Angela Casias
- **Phone:** 720 913 8529
- **Email:** angela.casias@denvergov.org

5. **Background on the request:**

All under the heading of the North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative, the City of Denver has several major redevelopment and infrastructure projects taking place that provide a connection from Denver Union Station to Denver International Airport. Named the *Corridor of Opportunity*, the nearly 23-mile stretch is one of the most compelling commercial investment opportunities in the world, with thousands of developable acres. One of six major initiatives currently underway, the Interstate 70 Reconstruction addresses the area between I-25 and Tower Road, which is Colorado's only east-west Interstate connection serving as an essential backbone of state and regional commerce, moving residents and tourist between the airport, downtown Denver, and the communities and resorts to the west. The viaduct (the elevated portion of I-70 on a bridge) was constructed in the early 1960's, and is reaching the point where it must be reconstructed to safely convey the traveling public and freight that keeps the Colorado economy moving. For the first time in ten years of extensive study, which includes reviewing over 200 options, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) recently recommended a "preferred alternative" for the I-70 East Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Partial Cover Lowered (PCL) option on the Existing Alignment would remove the elevated section of I-70, lower the highway below grade, cover the highway by Swansea Elementary School and reconnect the Elyria and Swansea neighborhood. This alternative was developed over many years of work with community and has broad public support, including from elected officials. In April 2013, the project team held public meetings attended by more than 400, during which the community urged CDOT to move forward with this alternative.

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The proposed regionally benefitting drainage plan accomplishes the need to provide 100 yr protection for the “PCL” and envisions enhancements like accessible open space, connectivity, and other quality of life improvements consistent with the recently adopted Elyria/Swansea Neighborhood plan and the National Western Center plan.

6. Please complete the following fields:

A. Location: I-70 corridor, Montclair Basin and Park Hill Basin

B. Affected Council District: 1, 8, 9 and 11

C. Benefits: The purpose of the project is to allow cooperation and coordination between the City and the State to provide needed stormwater infrastructure improvements that will protect and benefit the entire Montclair and Park Hill basins and the I-70 project. The innovative stormwater project will provide green infrastructure that will also be an amenity to the neighborhoods in which it is located and allow a transportation solution that improves safety, access, and mobility and addresses congestion on I-70. The need for this project results from the following issues:

- Need to improve stormwater infrastructure to manage both water volumes and water quality
- Increased transportation demand
- Limited transportation capacity
- Safety concerns
- Transportation infrastructure deficiencies

7. Is there any controversy surrounding this ordinance? Please explain.

There has been a good deal of controversy over the past 10 years regarding the I-70 reconstruction project and the preferred PCL alternative as well as concerns for air quality and environmental justice generally for the neighborhoods impacted. The drainage project requires some land acquisition in a burgeoning area for development.

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