



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Mike Land, City Manager

From: Traci E. Leach, Deputy City Manager

Date: June 9, 2020

Reference: DART Silver Line Rail Update

2030: Goal 5 states “Easy access to Dallas-Fort Worth Region” with the following objectives; Objective 1 – Participate in regional rail service to Dallas-Fort Worth, Objective 2- Maintain and enhance accessibility to DFW Airport, and Objective 5 – Develop regional connections for Coppell residents and employees of Coppell businesses

Introduction:

The purpose of this agenda item is to continue the Council discussion on prioritization of several enhancement options related to the rail construction.

At the April 14, 2020 Council meeting, staff presented follow up information to the Council on several items from the March 25, 2020 Council meeting:

- Update on the City’s Zoning Ordinance in relation to the proposed betterment walls;
- Updates on the layout, location, and look of security fencing throughout other rail corridors; and
- Updated prioritization of enhancement options for Council discussion and consideration. The “menu” of potential enhancements includes bridge enhancements for the elevated bridge crossing at S. Belt Line Rd, fencing upgrades for the required security fencing at various locations throughout Coppell, landscaping, and additional quiet zones at Royal Lane and Freeport.

Staff was asked to obtain a rough order of magnitude (ROM) estimate from AWH for vinyl coated chain link security fencing option. Tonight’s briefing will include updated information on the security fence ROM, as well as updates to other enhancement items.

Background:

The Silver Line will connect the DFW Airport to the cities of Dallas, Carrollton, Addison, Richardson and Plano. Along that route, only the City of Coppell is not a member of DART. In 2017, we saw the advancement of the Silver Line regional rail service from its potential construction and activation well beyond the year 2030 in the regional mobility plan, to actual approval, funding and scheduling for revenue service at the end of calendar year 2022.

The total amount available for the enhancements is \$750,000, which the City Council has proactively designated in previous budget years. Council re-affirmed the decision regarding the quiet zones at Royal Lane (\$320,000) and Freeport during the March 25, 2020 Council meeting. The estimated rough order of magnitude (ROM) total for all remaining enhancements exceeds the available funding after quiet zone cost.

The discussion of potential enhancements has been on-going since 2017. Since that time, staff has been in consistent communication with the DART and Archer Western staff to work through details for the proposed enhancements. Should the City Council desire to move forward with any of the proposed enhancements, staff will coordinate with DART to draft an addendum to the existing Master ILA. This addendum would be brought back to the Council for consideration and approval.

Legal: None.

Fiscal Impact: At this time, there is no fiscal impact for construction, assuming that the selected enhancement options stay within the assigned amount set aside by the City Council. Maintenance of the improvements may be required via an interlocal agreement with DART for any future enhancements selected.

Recommendation: Staff is seeking direction regarding desired enhancements for the Silver Line project.