



Legislation Text

File #: 2721-2017, Version: 1

1. BACKGROUND

This legislation authorizes the City Auditor to appropriate \$1,060,000.00 within the Smart Cities Challenge Grant Fund.

On June 23, 2016, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) awarded the City of Columbus up to \$40 million in federal funds to assist in implementation of the City's proposal to demonstrate how advanced data and intelligent transportation systems (ITS) technologies and applications can be used to reduce congestion, keep travelers safe, protect the environment, respond to climate change, connect underserved communities, and support economic vitality.

Due to the terms and conditions of the USDOT cooperative agreement for this program, financial support for the Smart City Challenge Program will be awarded in funding phases. USDOT has appropriated \$15 million to be available for City use during the initial stage of the project. It is necessary for the Department of Public Service to appropriate funds so the USDOT funds currently available can be expended. Previous legislation appropriated funds to establish the initial consultant contracts for this program along with anticipated City costs for personnel, technology supplies, office supplies, and travel in year one of the project. This legislation is appropriating funds for estimated costs of the project for City personnel in year two of the project and additional consulting firms that are being added at the request of USDOT.

Ordinance 1901-2017 authorized the Public Service Director to transfer signature authority to the City's Chief Innovation Officer or the Chief Innovation Officer's designee for all past, present, and future Smart Columbus, Smart City Challenge, and Paul G. Allen Family Foundation contracts, documents, and projects. The City's Chief Innovation Officer or designee will be approving this ordinance instead of the Director of Public Service.

2. FISCAL IMPACT

Funding in the amount of \$1,060,000.00 is available in Fund 7768 USDOT Grant - Smart City for this project expenditure.

3. EMERGENCY DESIGNATION

Emergency action is requested so the funds are available as needed so as not to cause a delay in the Smart City Challenge project.

To authorize the City Auditor to appropriate \$1,060,000.00 within the Smart City grant fund for City personnel costs and additional consultants; to authorize the City's Chief Innovation Officer, on behalf of the Department of Public Service, to approve additional appropriations in Fund 7768 USDOT Grant - Smart City; and to declare an emergency. (\$1,060,000.00)

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2016, the USDOT awarded the City of Columbus up to \$40 million in federal funds to assist in implementation of the City's proposal to demonstrate how advanced data and intelligent transportation systems (ITS) technologies and applications that can be used to reduce congestion, keep travelers safe, protect the environment, respond to climate change, connect underserved communities, and support economic vitality as part of the Smart City Challenge program; and

WHEREAS, USDOT has appropriated \$15 million to reimburse the City for first year expenses of the Smart City Challenge program per the USDOT Cooperative Agreement; and

WHEREAS, funding in the amount of \$7,983,750.00 remains unappropriated for the project in Federal grant funds from

the USDOT; and

WHEREAS, these USDOT funds need to be appropriated by Public Service before they can be expended; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance Number 1901-2017 authorized the Public Service Director to transfer signature authority to the City's Chief Innovation Officer or the Chief Innovation Officer's designee for all past, present, and future Smart Columbus, Smart City Challenge, and Paul G. Allen Family Foundation contracts, documents, and projects; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Service in that it is immediately necessary to authorize an appropriation of funds so they will be immediately available for use so as not to cause a delay in the Smart City Challenge project, thereby preserving the public health, peace, property, safety and welfare; **now, therefore:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the City's Chief Innovation Officer, on behalf of the Department of Public Service, be and is hereby authorized to approve additional appropriations in Fund 7768 USDOT Grant - Smart City.

SECTION 2. That from the unappropriated monies and from all monies estimated to come into said fund from any and all sources and unappropriated for any other purpose during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the sum of \$1,060,000.00 is appropriated in Fund 7768 Smart City in Object Class 01 Personnel and Object Class 03 Purchased Services per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

SECTION 4. That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this ordinance.

SECTION 5. That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or 10 days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.