



Legislation Text

File #: 1892-2019, **Version:** 1

1. BACKGROUND

This legislation authorizes payment for utility relocation work as needed by American Electric Power, AT&T, Spectrum (aka Time Warner), Windstream, and other utilities (or companies hired by utilities to perform utility relocation work) for the NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th project in an amount up to \$200,000.00.

The Public Service Department is engaged in the NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th project. This project involves work on North High Street from 7th Avenue to 9th Avenue. Project improvements include sidewalk on both sides of High Street, planter beds and street trees, lighting and signal upgrades, storm improvements, and undergrounding of both private and public overhead utilities.

In the course of effecting roadway improvements it is sometimes necessary to force the relocation of utilities from privately held easements or place overhead utilities underground to promote public health, safety and welfare, including the economic development of the City. It is necessary to move utilities to complete this project.

This funding request for utilities relocation reimbursement is based upon estimates from the utilities. The utilities will invoice the City for actual costs incurred in relocating the utilities. The amount needed may exceed the amount requested in this ordinance. Additional legislation will be submitted by the Department of Public Service if additional funds are needed to complete the relocations.

2. FISCAL IMPACT

This is a budgeted expense. Funding for this expense is available within Fund 7704, the Streets and Highways Bond Fund. An amendment to the 2019 Capital Improvement Budget and a transfer of funds within the Streets and Highways Bond Fund is required to establish sufficient budget authority and cash for the proper project.

3. EMERGENCY DESIGNATION

Emergency designation is requested to provide funding for utility reimbursements at the earliest possible time to maintain the project construction schedule.

To amend the 2019 Capital Improvement Budget; to authorize the transfer of funds and appropriation within the Streets and Highways Bond Fund; to authorize the Director of Public Service to pay utility relocation costs for the NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th project; to authorize the expenditure of up to \$200,000.00 for utility relocations for this project from the Streets and Highways Bond Fund; and to declare an emergency. (\$200,000.00)

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus is concerned with the use of the various rights-of-way areas in the City as such rights-of-way areas represent a valuable and limited resource that must be utilized to promote the public health, safety and welfare including the economic development of the City; and

WHEREAS, utility relocations must be completed before construction can begin; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Service requires funding to be available for utility relocation expenses for the NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th project; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance authorizes funding in the amount of up to \$200,000.00 for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to authorize an amendment to the 2019 Capital Improvement Budget for the purpose of

providing sufficient spending authority for the aforementioned project expenditure; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for Council to authorize a transfer of funds within Fund 7704, the Streets and Highways Bond Fund, to establish sufficient cash to pay for the project; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Service in that it is immediately necessary to authorize payment for utility relocation expenses to prevent construction delays, 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 2019 Capital Improvements Budget authorized by ordinance 1326-2019 be amended as follows to establish sufficient authority for this project:

Fund / Project / Project Name / C.I.B. / Change / C.I.B. as Amended

7704 / P530053-100003 / Short North SID - High Street Improvements Phase 3 (Voted Carryover) / \$8,666,921.00 / (\$200,000.00) / \$8,466,921.00

7704 / P530058-100002 / NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th (Voted Carryover) / \$3,060,665.00 / \$200,000.00 / \$3,260,665.00

SECTION 2. That the transfer of \$200,000.00, or so much thereof as may be needed, is hereby authorized within Fund 7704 (Streets and Highways Bond Fund), from Dept-Div 5912 (Design and Construction), Project P530053-100003 (Short North SID - High Street Improvements Phase 3), Object Class 06 (Capital Outlay) to Dept-Div 5912 (Design and Construction), Project P530058-100002 (NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th), Object Class 06 (Capital Outlay) per the account codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the Director of Public Service be and hereby is authorized to reimburse utilities, or to reimburse companies hired by utilities to perform utility relocation work, for the NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th project.

SECTION 4. That the expenditure of \$200,000.00, or so much thereof as may be needed, is hereby authorized in Fund 7704 (Streets and Highways Bond Fund), in Dept-Div 5912 (Design and Construction), Project P530058-100002 (NCR - Weinland Park 7th to 9th), in Object Class 06 (Capital Outlay) per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 5. 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 6. 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 7. That the City Auditor is hereby authorized to transfer the unencumbered balance in a project account to the unallocated balance account within the same fund upon receipt of certification by the Director of the Department administering said project that the project has been completed and the monies are no longer required for said project.

SECTION 8. For the reasons stated in this ordinance's preamble, which are made a part of this ordinance, this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and is effective and in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor or ten (10) days after its passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes this ordinance.