

**THIS IS A PROPOSED DRAFT AND WILL BE REPLACED BY THE FINAL, SIGNED ORDINANCE OR
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL**

AN ORDINANCE

**AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE US
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT) FOR THE
NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FREIGHT AND HIGHWAY PROJECTS
(NSFHP) INFRASTRUCTURE FOR REBUILDING AMERICA (INFRA)
GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ZARZAMORA
STREET AT FRIO CITY ROAD RAILROAD OVERPASS PROJECT,
LOCATED IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 AND AUTHORIZING THE
ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL FUNDS IF AWARDED.**

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WHEREAS, the Zarzamora Street at Frio City Road Railroad Overpass Project, located on the west side of San Antonio's urban core, is a critical piece of the region's transportation network and the transportation system in this area is the key lifeline for residential and commercial land uses, as well as being in the proximity of Port SA and the former military installation known as Kelly Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, the intersection of Zarzamora Road and Frio City Road is a five-legged intersection which is currently an illuminated four-to-six-lane road that crosses US HWY 90, UPRR tracks, as well as commercial and residential neighborhoods and experiences heavy congestion, especially during AM and PM peak, and sizeable traffic throughout the day; and

WHEREAS, the Union Pacific Railroad crossing carries on an average 25.96 trains within 24 hour period with an average wait time at the gates for traffic at the intersection is about 400 seconds (6 minutes and 40 seconds), thus building up a long queue on almost all five legs of the intersections for the turning motorists, waiting for the gates to open; and

WHEREAS, South San Antonio High school and two other elementary schools makes a congested situation for parents who drive their kids to school every day, especially in the morning rush hour; and

WHEREAS, the current total cost estimate for the bridge overpass at the UPRR and Frio City Road intersections is over \$35 million and wherein voters approved the inclusion of this project in the 2017-2022 Bond Program, with \$10 million allocated for the construction of the project, and this rail crossing is also included in the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) adopted State Freight Plan; and

WHEREAS, the total number of crashes have increased every year from 32 in 2012, to 43 in 2014 within this area of the five-legged intersection as well as several crashes were identified in the Federal Railroad Administration's 2015 Web Accident Prediction System report; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance authorizes the submission of an application to the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) for the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP)

INFRA Grant for the construction of the Zarzamora Street at Frio City Road Railroad Overpass Project; and

WHEREAS, the City could be awarded approximately \$35 million in federal funds for implementation of the overpass project and the design could potentially include four 12-foot lanes (two in each direction) and bicycle and pedestrian amenities on each side that would go over the UPRR tracks and allows drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians to avoid the Zarzamora at Frio City Road intersection; and

WHEREAS, a grant award date has not been identified by US DOT, but staff will continue to monitor the updates provided by the agency and in the meantime this Project is currently being considered for the City of San Antonio's 2017-2022 Bond Program; **NOW THEREFORE**,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The City Manager or her designee, or the Director of the Transportation and Capital Improvements Department or his designee, is hereby authorized to apply for grant funds in the amount up to \$35,000,000.00 from the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) for the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP) INFRA Grant for the construction of the Zarzamora Street at Frio City Road Railroad Overpass Project. Acceptance and appropriation of funds, including a program budget and required cash match, will be addressed upon award in subsequent ordinances.

SECTION 2. The financial allocations in this Ordinance are subject to approval by the Director of Finance, City of San Antonio. The Director of Finance may, subject to concurrence by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee, correct allocations to specific SAP Fund Numbers, SAP Project Definitions, SAP WBS Elements, SAP Internal Orders, SAP Fund Centers, SAP Cost Centers, SAP Functional Areas, SAP Funds Reservation Document Numbers, and SAP GL Accounts as necessary to carry out the purpose of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage by eight affirmative votes; otherwise it shall be effective on the tenth day after passage hereof.

PASSED and APPROVED this 30th day of November 2017.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney