



City of San Antonio

Legislation Details (With Text)

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Type: Staff Briefing - Without Ordinance

In control: Economic and Workforce Development Committee

On agenda: 2/18/2021

Title: Briefing on the Lower Broadway Corridor Construction Relief Grant Program. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager]

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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DEPARTMENT: Office of the City Manager

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Lori Houston

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: 1

SUBJECT: Lower Broadway Corridor Construction Relief Grant Program

SUMMARY:

The 2017-2022 Bond Program’s Broadway Corridor improvement project started construction in 2020. San Antonio businesses continue to face challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This project has reduced access to and visibility of small businesses in the lower segment of the Broadway Corridor, creating additional challenges. The City of San Antonio has developed a grant program to provide relief to qualifying small businesses who are experiencing significant downturn associated with the Broadway Corridor improvement project and COVID-19 pandemic.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

One of the largest corridor improvement projects in the 2017-2022 Bond Program is Broadway Street between its intersections with Houston Street and Burr (Alamo Heights city limits). The work will be completed in multiple phases.

- **Lower Segment** (Houston Street to I-35)
 - Construction (Underway): July 2020 to January 2024
- **Upper Segment Phase 1** (I-35 to Mulberry)
 - Construction (Not begun; in design phase): March 2022 to January 2024
- **Upper Segment Phase 2** (Mulberry to Burr)
 - Construction (Not begun; not funded): TBD

Small businesses in the lower segment rely on visibility by pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Visibility has been significantly reduced by the installation of construction fencing and by street closures.

ISSUE:

The beginning of construction projects on the lower segment of the Broadway corridor project has created challenges for small businesses by reducing visibility and vehicular and pedestrian access to the area. The City has developed a grant program to provide relief to small businesses affected by the project and by ongoing challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Qualifying businesses with 30 or fewer employees are eligible for grants of up to \$25,000 depending on the number of employees. Applications will be scored based on the business location and business ownership.

Grants will be funded by the Midtown TIRZ and administered by Centro San Antonio.

ALTERNATIVES:

The City could take no action. Businesses in the program area will continue to face challenges related to the 2017-2022 City of San Antonio Bond Program Broadway Corridor Improvement Project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Midtown TIRZ will fund \$250,000 in grants for the lower Broadway area, plus a 5 percent administration fee. The total funding is \$262,500.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes.