

**Item**

Resolution 2023-19 approving the grant application to the Wyoming Department of Transportation - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant.

**Responsible Staff Contact**

Clara Chaffin

**Recommendations**

Recommend approving Resolution 2023-19 as presented.

**Executive Summary**

In June 2022, the City applied for a TAP Grant through WYDOT for the construction of a sidewalk along the north side of East Richards Street from 5<sup>th</sup> to Mesa. In October 2022, the City received notice that the grant had been partially funded, in the amount of \$200k for design of the project. Currently, the City and CEPI are working with the property owners along East Richards Street in designing the pathway.

The Statement of Interest for this year's TAP applications opened and was submitted in April 2023 for the construction portion of the project. A site visit was performed with WYDOT in May and grant applications are due July 17, 2023.

WYDOT offers a cursory review of applications if submitted prior to June 30, 2023. Comments and suggestions will be made for a successful application and applicants will then have time to make changes and submit a final grant application.

The total project was budgeted in FY2024 in the amount of \$1.4M. However, based on conversations with WYDOT, it is anticipated that the City will receive a partial grant award as funds have been cut from \$4M to \$3M this year. The application presents the project with options for one, two, or three phases.

**Background**

Improving the East Richards Street entryway to our community has been a goal of the City for many years. The desire was first outlined in the 2014 Master Plan and has been identified in all subsequent Strategic Plans. In FY2021, the City Engineer performed a Richards Street Pedestrian Study as a first step towards applying for a TAP Grant (Transportation Alternatives Program). The study outlines need for non-vehicular safe transportation along the commercial corridor of East Richards Street.

The Richards Street Pedestrian Safety project has a primary goal of providing a safe route for pedestrians and other non-motorized transportation options to access businesses, services, and entertainment opportunities along the commercial length of East Richards Street. Currently, there are very few safe spaces along the corridor for pedestrians to use forcing them into the street or into the drainage ditch. Along with essentially no sidewalks, there are dozens of vehicular cuts for pedestrians to try to navigate quickly as vehicles are maneuvering in and out of individual sites. The primary goal of the project is safety.



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The project would install a concrete pathway along the north side of the street from South 5<sup>th</sup> Street all the way to Mesa Drive.

As an added benefit, this project will provide a long-desired connection between East Richards Street and West Richards Street by providing a continuous safe pathway from the 2018/2019 Other Side of the Tracks TAP Grant project all the way to the far side of the East Richards business district.

### Alignment to Strategic Goals and/or Other Plans

**Outcome :** Well-Connected City

**Strategy :** Strategy #2: Focus on Mobility Safety

Strategy #3: Transportation Development: Walkability, Bikes, Electric Vehicles, Ride-Sharing, Uber/Taxi

**KPI:** WCC-03, WCC-04, WCC-06

**2014 Master Plan :** Goal D4. Create attractive, cohesive entryways to the City of Douglas. Entryways include 4th Street, East Richards Street, Center Street and West Yellowstone Highway.

Goal A2. Create an interconnected system of streets and highways, walkways, and bike paths within newly developed areas.

B. Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation. Develop a system of sidewalks, pathways, and trails that improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity.

Goal B1. Provide for a safe, connected sidewalk and bicycle network throughout the City.

**2015 Downtown Master Plan :** N/A

### Budget/Fiscal Impact

Fund/Department	Street Improvements
Project/Line Item(s)	Architect/Engineering/Survey, Improvements Other than Bldg
Budgeted Amount	\$1,400,000.00
Anticipated Amount	\$1,400,000.00

### Action Requested/ Recommended Motion

Move to approve Resolution 2023-19 as presented.

### Reviewed/Approved

- Community Development
- Law Enforcement
- City Administrator
- City Clerk

- Public Works
- Legal
- Finance