



Memorandum

To: City Council Members

CC: David E. Weiss, Mayor
 Jeri Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer
 Laura Englehart, Director of Economic Development
 Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works

From: Joyce G. Braverman, Director of Planning
 Kara Hamley O'Donnell, Principal Planner

Subject: **Lee Road Implementation Strategy and Funding**

Date: May 7, 2021

The proposed Lee Road Action Plan will be a community-driven, visionary, targeted reinvestment plan for the Lee Road commercial corridor and will craft the long-term vision and address all aspects of transportation and redevelopment. As we embark on the year-long planning process, it is important to anticipate the required implementation funding to move toward enacting the plan. Many granting agencies require application years in advance of fund availability.

To reconstruct, resurface, and reconfigure all of Lee Road, update traffic light signalization, and install targeted pedestrian and bicycle improvements south of Van Aken Boulevard, we anticipate project implementation to cost \$13.7 million with up to \$5.7 million City match. This would include construction grant matches, engineering, and construction management/construction inspection (CMCI).

Project Year	Project	Project Cost	Grant Funds	Local Match
2025-26	Construction Estimate			
	Road Resurfacing and Reconfiguration	\$ 5,500,000	\$ 3,700,000	\$ 1,800,000
	Streetscape/Multipurpose Path	\$ 1,875,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 375,000
	CMAQ Multipurpose Path	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,580,000	\$ 420,000
	CMAQ Signalization	\$ 1,527,200	\$ 1,206,488	\$ 320,712
	Construction subtotal	\$ 10,902,200	\$ 7,986,488	\$ 2,915,712
2024-25	Engineering/CMCI	\$ 2,180,440		\$ 2,180,440
2023-24	Misc. costs	\$ 620,000		\$ 620,000
	GRAND TOTAL	\$ 13,702,640	\$ 7,986,488	\$ 5,716,152

We have found that a strategic approach to grant applications, in some cases, permits us to offset the required City match with other grants. This has been the successful strategy in the Chagrin/Warrensville intersection reconfiguration and public improvements in the Van Aken District. We have recently learned that next year, we will be recommended for \$1.5 million in grant funds for streetscape/multipurpose path and \$3.7 million for road reconstruction and resurfacing from NOACA's Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The streetscape funds are capped by NOACA and will be enough to complete one side of the streetscape south of Chagrin Boulevard. NOACA plans to recommend the project in NOACA's Long Range Plan, a comprehensive plan that guides Northeast Ohio's major infrastructure investments and vision for the future. This plan will be considered by the NOACA Board in June 2021, with an amendment to the TIP expected in 2022. These funds are for funding year 2025.

We have submitted Lee Road applications to Ohio representatives for Federal Transportation Bill and Appropriation earmark funding. This month, we are presenting to committees and to Council to apply for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for 2025-2026 implementation:

1. Lee Road Signalization project: upgrade timing, interconnectedness, and better traffic movement through Lee Road intersections (\$1.21 million grant, \$626,152 City match, including engineering/CMCI).
2. Lee Road Multipurpose Path: improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety and aesthetics on one side of Lee Road south of Chagrin (\$1.58 million grant, \$820,000 City match, including engineering/CMCI).

We will reduce the \$5.72 million City match by submitting grant applications to some of the following in funding years closer to 2025:

- County Road 50/50 funds
- NEORS Green Infrastructure Grant
- CDBG/CDSG
- Ohio Public Works Commission
- State Safety Funds
- County Tree Grant
- TLCI Implementation funding
- State Capital award
- ODOT Jobs & Commerce
- RAISE Federal infrastructure funds

We will continue to seek out grant awards to reduce the use of City funds as we work toward transforming the Lee Road Corridor.