Public Art Project

The Citizens Bond Advisory Committee recommended that the public art policy be applied to this bond election. Based on this policy, up to $400,000 of the total $20.4 million bond program will be reserved for artistic enhancements related to the expansion of I-35.

As currently planned, the intent is to incorporate locally created artistic designs into the concrete retaining wall panels in various sections of the project. The designs will be constructed within the Denton city limits to showcase various aspects of the community. Other elements may also be incorporated based on final design of the I-35 roadway. Below is an example of how this concept might look at one of the bridges along I-35.

Example of an artistic design.

Early Voting

Early voting dates, times, and locations:
Monday-Friday Oct. 22-26 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday Oct. 27 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday Oct. 28 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday-Friday Oct. 29-Nov. 2 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Argyle Town Hall
308 Denton St., Argyle

Carrollton Public Library
4220 N. Josey, Carrollton

Denton Co. Admin. Complex – Health Department
553 S. Loop 288, Denton

Flower Mound Police and Municipal Court Building
4150 Kirkpatrick, Flower Mound

Frisco Fire Station #7
339 W Stonestream Pkwy., Frisco

Frankford Town Homes
18110 Mornings Ln., Dallas

Highland Village Municipal Complex
1000 Highland Village Dr., Highland Village

Joseph A. Carroll Administration Building
401 W. Hickory, Denton

Justin Municipal Complex
415 N. College, Justin

Lake Dallas City Hall
212 Main Street, Lake Dallas

Lewisville Municipal Annex
1197 W. Main Street, Lewisville

Steven E. Copeland Government Center
1400 FM 424, Cross Roads

To the Citizens of Denton:

The November 6, 2012, street bond election for the proposed five-year capital improvement program is an important issue for you to consider.

We have responded to 10 important, commonly-asked questions that provide essential information about the street bond program. Many of these questions were asked by or presented to members of the City Council and the Citizens Bond Advisory Committee during the formulation and review of the capital improvement program.

Several public meetings and hearings have been held, and after more than six months of intense planning and study, these projects are recommended for consideration by the voters.

Please study the facts carefully and vote on the proposition on November 6, 2012.

Mark Burroughs, Mayor
City of Denton

Visit www.cityofdenton.com/bondelection for more information, or contact Finance Administration at (940) 349-8531. Para recibir esta importante información sobre enlace de elección del Programa de Mejoramiento del Capital, por favor llame al (940) 349-8530.
Proposition 1

The proposed $20.4 million Street Bond Program includes $20 million for reconstructing certain Denton streets. All streets selected for inclusion were identified through an Overall Condition Index (OCI) survey and/or through citizen input. The OCI rating is used to evaluate the condition and quality of streets, which helps determine whether street maintenance, repair, or reconstruction is needed. In December 2010, the City completed a detailed OCI inventory and condition rating of its 680-mile street network. Streets with an OCI rating of 40 or less are considered to be poor on a 100-point scale. Reconstructing these streets is the primary focus of the bond program. A few examples of streets targeted for reconstruction in this bond election are Bell Avenue, McKinney Street, Schmitz Street, Windsor Drive, and Cherokee Street. For a comprehensive listing of all street segments in Denton with an OCI of 40 or less, visit www.cityofdenton.com/bondelection. This listing comprised of more than 900 streets and identifies which street segments are targeted for this street bond program. It also gives the reasons why certain street segments were not selected to be included.

Does this mean that your street will not be fixed if it is not targeted for this specific bond election? No. It simply means that it will not be addressed in this bond program, but it may be addressed in future years. The next bond election is tentatively planned for 2014 or 2015.

QUESTION 1: What is being proposed? On November 6, 2012, all registered voters in the City of Denton will have an opportunity to approve or not approve a $20.4 million Street Bond Program addressing street reconstruction in Denton. $20 million of the bond program is for the reconstruction of existing streets and up to $400,000 is currently planned for public art related to the I-35 expansion project.

QUESTION 2: How will the Street Bond Program affect my property tax? No property tax rate increase is planned for this bond program.

QUESTION 3: Why is the Street Bond Program being considered? The City Council identified street infrastructure as a major initiative for the City. This was based on the City’s Overall Condition Index (OCI) rating and citizen feedback. With this bond program, the City plans to improve the quality of streets in the Denton community.

QUESTION 4: What is the Overall Condition Index (OCI) and why is it important? The OCI is a rating of the condition and quality of streets, which helps determine whether street maintenance, repair, or reconstruction is needed. In December 2010, the City completed a detailed inventory and condition rating of its 680-mile street network to help obtain an OCI rating for City streets. Today, the City’s current overall average OCI rating is 60. This is an average rating of City streets, which includes many lower-rated streets. The intent of the street bond program is to reconstruct streets where maintenance alone is no longer effective.

QUESTION 5: How were the residential, collector, and arterial streets selected for reconstruction? Residential, collector, and arterial streets were selected for reconstruction based on the 2004 and 2010 Pavement Management surveys and citizen input. After working with City staff and soliciting input from the public, the Citizens Bond Advisory Committee, a City Council appointed committee of 21 Denton citizens, recommended the street projects to be included in the bond program to Council. The Pavement Management surveys play an important role in this process. These surveys help City of Denton staff and the Citizens Bond Advisory Committee analyze the condition of streets in Denton and establish priorities for improvements. Priority was given to streets with lower OCI ratings.

QUESTION 6: Why doesn’t the City just budget for these street repairs? The City Council realizes the need to increase street maintenance and repair funding. The City was funding these activities at $2.8 million a year but increased maintenance funding to $3.5 million in the Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget and to $4.2 million in the FY 2012-13 Budget. Additionally, this funding level is planned to increase annually to $7.6 million by 2017. Even with these increases, funding is still below the $10 million recommended annually for street maintenance. The maintenance budget is designed to extend the life of street infrastructure for as long as possible. Since some streets have exceeded their useful lives, a reconstruction program — funded with general obligation bonds — would provide enough resources to reconstruct the recommended roadways.

QUESTION 7: What is the City of Denton’s Public Art Policy and why is it a part of this Street Bond Program? The City Council approved a Public Art Policy in 2006 which states that the City shall reserve two to four percent of all future Capital Improvement Programs for public art. Based on this policy, the Citizens Bond Advisory Committee recommended that the public art policy be applied to this bond program and that up to $400,000 ($20 million x 2% = $400,000) be reserved for public art projects which are related to the expansion of I-35.

QUESTION 8: How will the Street Bond Program be financed? Traditionally, citizens have been asked to vote on bond issues for capital improvements for every five years. If the voters approve the propositions, general obligation bonds will be sold, and the proceeds of the bond sales will be used to finance the projects.

QUESTION 9: Will the $20.4 million be spent all at once? No, the $20.4 million will be spent over approximately five years. A portion of the authorized bonds will be sold each year.

QUESTION 10: Whom can I contact if I have more questions about the Street Bond Program? Visit www.cityofdenton.com/bondelection for more information, or contact Finance Administration at (940) 349-8531.