

Email Comments Received

Livable Centers Studies

I would like to offer my support of the proposed funding for the 2013-2016 TIP. Specific to the 2013 Call for Projects, I strongly encourage the HGAC Board to consider and advance the request for \$1,200,000 for Livable Centers Studies. As a previous project director for the **Downtown / East Downtown Livable Center** in 2011, the Downtown District's return on investment for our planning study co-sponsored with HGAC has been significant, with promising economic and urban improvements in the near-term. These are a but a few of the highlights from our study currently in implementation:

- convention hotel development, including a convention center garage expansion,
- downtown residential development with a city-supported incentive policy,
- light rail expansion with alignment reconfigured and stations relocated as a result of the Livable Centers Study,
- Crawford and Dallas Streetscape pedestrian improvements,
- and indirectly, the City's bike share program now moving beyond the downtown pilot phase to cover more inner city neighborhoods.

As a local planning tool with broad community support, the Livable Centers program, in general, and our Downtown study, in particular, have significantly contributed to the greater good of downtown. I would love to see the Livable Centers fully funded in 2013 and in future years.

Lonnie Hoogeboom

The Airline improvement District feels it is important to continue the Livable Centers Studies which gives areas a framework for future projects, growth and enhanced livability. The studies help give specific areas an overall vision with input from the community on what improvements they would like to see in their area. As with our study, I feel it is very valuable to include cost estimates on proposed projects which help the entity seek additional funds for construction of specific projects. Livable Center Studies also focus on key components such as transportation, urban design, parks and economic development and help improve air quality, enhance mobility and economic development.

Teri Koerth