

FACT SHEET

CITY OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

TITLE

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Red River Waterway District relative to the installation of the LED decorative lighting and the roadway lights on the Long/Allen Bridge, also known as the Texas Street Bridge (US 79/80) and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

DATE

December 8, 2020

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT

SPAR

COUNCIL DISTRICT

“B”

SPONSOR

Councilwoman Fuller

PURPOSE

To execute a *Cooperative Endeavor Agreement*.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Texas Street Bridge was first lit in 1993 by internationally renowned lighting pioneer Rockne Krebs, and celebrated a light life span of 23 years. The Neon Lights created an impact and vibrancy for our region, like none other, when the Bridge was lit. As requested by the LDOTD, in 2018, the original Neon Light installation was removed to prepare for the repair and repainting of the Bridge, which is now complete.

Since 2018, we have been collaborating with Shreveport Regional Arts Council (SRAC) to re-light the bridge, this time with LED LIGHTING. The goal was to raise the money to buy, install, operate, and maintain the bridge. The first major donor was Dr. George and Sandra Bakowski. The Bakowskis pledged \$1M to Mayor Adrian Perkins to purchase the LED LIGHTS, with the understanding that they would select the Lighting Vendor, the world’s largest bridge lighting and architectural LED lighting company, SIGNIFY formally Phillips Lighting.

The money was raised for the purchase of lights, which includes the decorative, programmable LED lights and the roadway lights (installed in 1964). The purchase also includes 5 year warranty and an additional 5-years of replacement equipment. When the money was in place for the lights, we needed funding for installation. At this point we began work with Bossier City to raise the funds for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the LED Bridge. The next steps include, permitting by the LADOTD, bidding the installation, and the installation of the decorative and roadway lights.

In August, the Red River Waterway Commission approved a \$1M allocation to install LED LIGHTS on the Texas Street Bridge. This agreement requires a cooperative endeavor agreement between both the City of Shreveport and Bossier City.

The transformation to a programmable, LED lit installation will become a beacon for events, venues, and attractions that make Northwest Louisiana a dynamic place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

The Council previously approved a resolution (October 13, 2020) authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Red River Waterway Commission, but there was a change to the agreement which necessitates the council to approve the revised Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (the substantive change is found in Section 1.ii)

TIMETABLE

Introduction: December 18, 2020
Final Passage: January 12, 2021

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit “A” *Cooperative Endeavor Agreement*

SPECIAL PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**FINANCES****SOURCE OF FUNDS****ALTERNATIVES**

(1) Adopt the resolution as submitted, or (2) Amend the resolution, or (3) Reject the resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the resolution.

FACT SHEET PREPARED BY:

Shelly Ragle
SPAR Director

RESOLUTION NO. _____ OF 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH RED RIVER WATERWAY DISTRICT RELATIVE TO THE INSTALLATION OF THE LED DECORATIVE LIGHTING AND THE ROADWAY LIGHTS ON THE LONG/ALLEN BRIDGE, ALSO KNOWN AS THE TEXAS STREET BRIDGE (US 79/80) AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

BY COUNCILMEMBER: COUNCILWOMAN FULLER

WHEREAS, the Red River Waterway District (“RRWD”) has agreed to provide One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the construction/installation of the LED lights and related equipment on the Long/Allen Bridge also known as the Texas Street Bridge (“the Bridge”); and

WHEREAS, the City of Shreveport (“Shreveport”), the City of Bossier City (“Bossier”), and the Shreveport Regional Arts Council (“SRAC”) have raised the funds needed to purchase the equipment for the LED lit bridge; and

WHEREAS, Shreveport, Bossier City, RRWD, and SRAC are committed to participate in projects to promote economic and tourism; and.

WHEREAS, Shreveport, Bossier City has committed funding toward the development and projects to revitalize the urban riverfront of the Red River; and

WHEREAS, a result of the revitalization of the riverfronts, thousands of residents and tourist visit the riverfront each years in downtown Shreveport and Bossier City to enjoy the recreational and commercial aspects of the Red River;

WHEREAS, it is the desire of Shreveport, Bossier City, and SRAC to re-light the Bridge, in programmable, LED lights, as well as, replace the 60-year old roadway lighting; and

WHEREAS, the RRWD has a history of supporting such projects along the urban area of the Red River and are willing to contribute to the re-lighting of the Bridge with programmable, LED lighting, and LED roadway lighting by providing One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00)

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana in due, regular and legal session convened, that:

The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a *Cooperative Endeavor Agreement*, substantially in accordance with the draft of the agreement attached hereto, to include any related and accompanying documents to carry out the intent of this Resolution, between Shreveport, Bossier City, and RRWD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this Resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this Resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

THUS DONE AND RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office