

West Elizabeth Corridor
Fort Collins, Colorado
Small Starts Project Development
Information Prepared July 2021

The City of Fort Collins (“the City”) proposes to implement bus rapid transit (BRT), for approximately three miles along West Elizabeth Street between Overland Trail and Shields Street. The corridor links, Colorado State University’s (CSU) two campuses—known as Main Campus and Foothills Campus—and provides connections to other major destinations including CSU Transit Center, MAX BRT, and the rest of the community. The project will operate in mixed traffic and will include frequent service with transit signal prioritization, and improved roadway geometry to enable faster and safer operation. The project’s current estimated capital cost is \$74.3 million. The City has not yet determined how much funding they will seek from the Small Starts program.

The City believes that the West Elizabeth Corridor project will address safety and capacity deficiencies by removing or minimizing conflicts between automotive traffic and other users including people walking, rolling, and using transit. The corridor experiences a high volume of people walking and rolling but does not have sufficient facilities to accommodate the demand safely. Currently, transit operates with insufficient capacity and a substantial number of passengers are left behind on routes along the corridor. The project will address the growing demand for transportation options by increasing and improving transit infrastructure and operations, together with connections for walking and biking access.

The City of Fort Collins anticipates selecting the locally preferred alternative (LPA) in September 2021, with adoption of the LPA into the region’s fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan by March 2022. The City expects to complete the environmental review process in December 2021, receive a Small Starts Grant Agreement in 2023, and begin revenue service in 2025.