

INTRODUCED: March 25, 2024

A RESOLUTION No. 2024-R013

To support an application to the Virginia Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program for the purpose of funding Safe Routes to School programs at certain Richmond public schools and to commit to the required agreements of the Virginia Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program.

Patrons – Mayor Stoney and Ms. Lynch

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: APR 22 2024 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond desires to submit an application for an allocation of funds through the Virginia Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program to support Safe Routes to Schools programs at certain Richmond public schools and to commit to the required agreements of the Virginia Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Routes to School program is a nationwide initiative to increase the number of children who walk or bicycle to school by improving safety and convenience for walkers and cyclists; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has annually authorized federal funding for local

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: APR 22 2024 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

implementation of Safe Routes to School programs since 2005 and Safe Routes to Schools programs have been active in Virginia since 2007; and

WHEREAS, Greater Richmond Fit4Kids, Inc., a nonstock corporation authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Virginia, has operated a Safe Routes to School program in partnership with Richmond Public Schools since 2015; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Department of Transportation regulations now dictate that only local government agencies may submit proposals in response to Virginia Department of Transportation solicitations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond has partnered with Greater Richmond Fit4Kids, Inc. to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for federal Safe Routes to School funding available through the Transportation Alternatives Program; and

WHEREAS, Greater Richmond Fit4Kids, Inc. has secured funds to cover the cost of the required local funding match to participate in the Safe Routes to School program; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that, prior to an award determination, a resolution be received from the sponsoring local jurisdiction or agency requesting the Virginia Department of Transportation to establish a Safe Routes to School program for the City of Richmond;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the Council hereby supports the application for allocation of funds through the Virginia Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program to support Safe Routes to Schools programs at certain Richmond public schools, committing to the required agreements of the Virginia Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program,

and requesting that the Commonwealth Board of Transportation establish a project for the implementation of the City of Richmond Safe Routes to School program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the required local match will be funded by Greater Richmond Fit4Kids, Inc. pursuant to agreement with the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City hereby agrees to enter into a project administration agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation and provide the necessary oversight to ensure that the project is developed in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements relevant to Safe Routes to School programming.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That if the City subsequently elects to cancel the project, the City agrees to reimburse the Virginia Department of Transportation for the total amount of costs expended by the Virginia Department of Transportation through the date of notice of such cancellation. Subject to appropriation by the Council of the City of Richmond, the City agrees to repay any funds previously reimbursed that are later deemed ineligible by the Federal Highway Administration or the Virginia Department of Transportation.

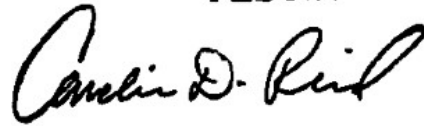
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Chief Administrative Officer, or his designee, is authorized to apply for funds and execute project administration agreements as well as other documents necessary for approved projects for the purpose of funding Safe Routes to School programs at certain Richmond public schools and to commit to the required agreements of the Virginia Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney's Office

**A TRUE COPY:
TESTE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carlin D. Reed". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C".

City Clerk



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
2nd Floor of City Hall
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov

Master

File Number: Admin-2024-0196

File ID: Admin-2024-0196

Type: Request for Ordinance or Resolution

Status: Regular Agenda

Version: 1

Reference:

In Control: City Clerk Waiting Room

Department:

Cost:

File Created: 03/04/2024

Subject:

Final Action:

Title: A resolution to request City Council's Support to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Alternatives Program for the purpose of funding the local Safe Routes to School program.

Internal Notes:

Code Sections:

Agenda Date: 03/25/2024

Indexes:

Agenda Number:

Patron(s):

Enactment Date:

Attachments: Admin-2024-0196 VDOT TAP SRTS Resolution AATF

Enactment Number:

Contact:

Introduction Date: 03/25/2024

Drafter: eva.colen@rva.gov

Effective Date:

Related Files:

Approval History

Version	Seq #	Action Date	Approver	Action	Due Date
1	1	3/5/2024	Traci DeShazor	Approve	3/6/2024
1	2	3/7/2024	Meghan Brown	Approve	3/6/2024
1	3	3/13/2024	Sheila White	Approve	3/8/2024
1	4	3/13/2024	Sabrina Joy-Hogg	Approve	3/14/2024
1	5	3/13/2024	Caitlin Sedano - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	6	3/14/2024	Jeff Gray	Approve	3/14/2024
1	7	3/14/2024	Lincoln Saunders	Approve	3/25/2024
1	8	3/14/2024	Mayor Stoney	Approve	4/1/2024

History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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Text of Legislative File Admin-2024-0196

Title

A resolution to request City Council’s Support to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Alternatives Program for the purpose of funding the local Safe Routes to School program.

Body

O & R Request

DATE: January 22, 2024 **EDITION:** 2
TO: The Honorable Members of City Council
THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor
THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer
THROUGH: Sabrina Joy-Hogg, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Finance and Administration
THROUGH: Sheila White, Director of Finance
THROUGH: Meghan Brown, Interim Director of Budget and Strategic Planning
THROUGH: Traci DeShazor, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Human Services
FROM: Eva Colen, Office of Children and Families
RE: Resolution to Apply for VDOT Funding for Safe Routes to School

PURPOSE:

To support an application to the Virginia Department of Transportation’s Transportation Alternatives Program for the purpose of funding Safe Routes to School programs at certain Richmond public schools and to commit to the required agreements of the Virginia Department of Transportation’s Transportation Alternatives Program.

BACKGROUND:

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) requires that all applicants for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding to support Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) programs submit resolutions from their governing bodies as part of the application process.

Greater Richmond Fit4Kids, a charitable organization in Richmond that is dedicated to improving children’s health and wellness through healthy eating and physical activity, partnered with the City of Richmond’s Office of Children and Families to submit an application to the VDOT TAP SRTS solicitation. Through this program, VDOT disburses federal funds to localities to support programs that encourage active transportation in school communities.

In Fiscal Year 2023, the City of Richmond and Greater Richmond Fit4Kids partnership was awarded funding to support the salary, equipment, and promotional items for the Richmond SRTS program. The SRTS program has operated in Richmond since 2015 and currently serves 10 elementary schools

(Barack Obama, Chimborazo, Fairfield Court, Ginter Park, Linwood Holton, Mary Munford, Oak Grove-Bellemeade, Overby-Sheppard, Westover Hills, and Woodville). The SRTS program engages parents, teachers, students, and partners working together to promote safe, active transport to and from schools. The Richmond SRTS team focuses efforts on underserved communities and students attending Title I schools in Richmond.

The application under consideration by VDOT would allow this program to continue in Fiscal Year 2025; a resolution from the City of Richmond’s City Council is mandatory in order for the City to be awarded funding in this cycle. The resolution must be submitted to VDOT by May 1, 2024.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Safe Routes to Schools programming includes a wide variety of community engagement activities at the schools where it operates.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL:

The goals of Safe Routes to Schools align with multiple City priorities, including Vision Zero and several components of the Equity Agenda including: ensuring equitable transit and mobility, supporting our children and families, creating equitable climate action and resilience, and strengthening community engagement and trust.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: March 25, 2024

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: April 22, 2024

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Education and Human Services

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Human Services

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: None

ATTACHMENTS: None

STAFF: Eva Colen, Office of Children and Families