



CITY OF RICHMOND

Department of Planning & Development Review *Staff Report*

ORD. 2015-037: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$320,000 from the Virginia Department of Transportation; to transfer \$80,000 in matching funds from the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Capital Budget, Bike Sharrows / Lanes project in the Transportation category; to amend the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Capital Budget by establishing a new project in the Transportation category called the Cannon Creek Trail Connector – Phase IV project; and to appropriate the total amount of \$400,000 to the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Capital Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the new Cannon Creek Trail Connector – Phase IV project in the Transportation category by \$400,000 for the purpose of constructing a bicycle/pedestrian trail beneath the I-64 overpass from Valley Road to Hospital Street that continues along Hospital Street until ending at Oliver Hill Way.

To: City Planning Commission
From: Land Use Administration
Date: March 2, 2015

PETITIONER

Emmanuel Adediran, Interim Director of Public Works
900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

LOCATION

Cannon Creek Greenway

PURPOSE

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or designee, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute the City / State project administration agreement for the Cannon Creek Trail Connector – Phase IV.

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

The Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program was replaced by the Transportation Alternative (TA) Program with the passage of MAP-21. The federal transportation legislation, (MAP-21) Transportation Alternative (TA) is transportation bill that began in federal fiscal year 2013. The Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; and safe routes to school projects. This funding program mandates 20% in matching funds to be supplied by the applicant.

The Cannon Creek Trail Connector – Phase IV project begins at the Richmond –Henrico Turnpike/ Valley Road intersection continuing east along Valley Road toward Hospital Street terminating at the Oliver Hill Way intersection. The project will consist of a 10-foot wide asphalt trail, pavement marking, pedestrian sidewalk, ADA approved wheelchair ramps, sharrows on

Valley road and Hospital Street, trash cans, drainage improvements, landscape tree plantings and other amenities. The Connector will provide a pedestrian link for the downtown communities to areas North of Richmond. Once completed the project will tie Cannon Creek Trail (thru Oliver Hill Way) to the VA Capital Trail, which is located in Shockoe Bottom.

This project supplements the previous Cannon Creek Trail (Phases I, II, and III). An amount of \$400,000 was requested from VDOT under the FY 15 Transportation Alternative Program. The City has been awarded \$320,000 in federal funds (80% of \$400,000). This award requires a 20% City matching funds in the amount of \$80,000 which is available in Bike Lanes/ Sharrows account # 500309.

The Department of Public Works recommends approval.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Site Description

The Cannon Creek Trail Connector – Phase IV project begins at the Richmond –Henrico Turnpike/ Valley Road intersection continuing east along Valley Road toward Hospital Street terminating at the Oliver Hill Way intersection.

Proposed Use of the Property

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or designee, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute the City / State project administration agreement for the Cannon Creek Trail Connector – Phase IV. The Virginia Department of Transportation request that the City enter into an agreement for the development and administration of the approved Transportation Alternative (TA) project.

Master Plan

The City of Richmond's Master Plan speaks to this site directly by stating, "Lands adjacent to the Richmond Henrico Turnpike between Brookland Park Boulevard and Dove Street. City owned land should be transferred to the Department of Recreation and Parks in order to create a continuous greenway from Brookland Park Boulevard to the existing Cannon Creek Nature Area." (p.261)

Zoning

The properties are located predominately within the R-5 Single Family zoning district which does permit public park uses.

Surrounding Area

All surrounding properties are located predominately within the R-5 zoning district. Single-Family uses prevails in the area.

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