

INTRODUCED: September 11, 2017

A RESOLUTION No. 2017-R061

To support a project to provide funding to design and construct the Gillies Creek Greenway shared-use path and infrastructure improvements from Williamsburg Avenue to Jennie Scher Road and the City's application in relation thereto to the Virginia Department of Transportation for \$840,000 from the federal Transportation Alternatives Program.

Patron – Mayor Stoney

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEPT 25 2017 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond desires to submit an application for \$840,000 for a project to provide funding to design and construct the Gillies Creek Greenway shared-use path and infrastructure improvements from Williamsburg Avenue to Jennie Scher Road from the federal Transportation Alternatives Program through the Virginia Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the procedures of the Virginia Department of Transportation require that the Council of the City of Richmond adopt a resolution in support of the project that includes a

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: SEPT 25 2017 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

commitment to provide the required 20 percent local match in funds or in-kind contributions and to provide for future maintenance and upkeep of the completed project;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the Council of the City of Richmond supports a project to provide funding to design and construct the Gillies Creek Greenway shared-use path and infrastructure improvements from Williamsburg Avenue to Jennie Scher Road and the City's application in relation thereto to the Virginia Department of Transportation for \$840,000 from the federal Transportation Alternatives Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City agrees to provide the required 20 percent local match in funds or in-kind contributions and to provide for future maintenance and upkeep of the completed project.



CITY OF RICHMOND
INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

O & R REQUEST

4-6893
AUG 15 2017

Office of the
Chief Administrative Officer

O&R REQUEST

DATE: August 8, 2017

EDITION: 1

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

RECEIVED

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

SEP 07 2017

THROUGH: Selena Cuffee-Glenn; Chief Administrative Officer

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

THROUGH: Robert C. Steidel, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer - Operations

THROUGH: Bobby Vincent, Director of Public Works

THROUGH: M. S. Khara, P.E., City Engineer

THROUGH: Michael B. Sawyer, P.E, City Transportation Engineer

FROM: Jakob C. Helmboldt, Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Trails Coordinator

RE: APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (VDOT) REQUESTING PROJECT FUNDING FROM THE BIENNIAL FY2019-FY2020 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR GILLIES CREEK GREENWAY PROJECT

ORD. OR RES. No. _____

PURPOSE: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or designee, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to formally request funding from VDOT for Gillies Creek Greenway design and construction improvements from Williamsburg Avenue to Jennie Scher Road for FY19 and FY20 of the FY2019-FY2020 federal Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program.

REASON: In accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), it is required that a supporting resolution and a City Council public hearing of the resolution be held for the application to be considered for awarding of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds. This year VDOT is requiring a biennial application submittal for fiscal years 2019 and 2020 for Transportation Alternatives Program.

RECOMMENDATION: The Department of Public Works recommends approval.

BACKGROUND: The Transportation Enhancement (TE) program established under 'SAFTEA-LU' was replaced by the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) with the passage of MAP-21.

Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act or "FAST Act" eliminates the MAP-21 TAP and replaces it with a set-aside of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funding for TAP. These set-aside funds include all projects and activities eligible under TAP, encompassing a variety of smaller-scale non-motorized transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity. There are 10 eligible activities under this program.

The FAST Act requires all TAP projects to be funded through a competitive process. This funding program mandates 20% in matching funds to be supplied by the applicant and the City be responsible for operating and maintenance cost of the TA improvements.

This year VDOT is requiring a biennial application submittal for fiscal years 2019 and 2020 for the Transportation Alternatives Program. This is a change from previous years' application submittals.

From the Riverfront Plan, "The Gillies Creek corridor restrictions make this an advantageous alignment for commencing design and construction of a Gillies Creek Greenway. The objective is to provide a non-street dependent, shared use corridor connecting pedestrians and cyclists from neighborhoods as far away as Oakwood and Montrose with an expeditious route to the Virginia Capital Trail and the James River. This greenway would provide even more connectivity between outlying diverse neighborhoods and the Downriver parcels at Lehigh and Intermediate Wharf, and destinations along the Virginia Capital Trail." The total project cost is estimated at \$3,501,750 to build the greenway from Virginia Capital Trail to the Oakwood neighborhood.

Gillies Creek Greenway Phase I is anticipated to be covered mainly by private parties who may elect to construct the portion of the greenway from the James River / Virginia Capital Trail to Williamsburg Avenue.

Gillies Creek Greenway Phase II (FY 19 TA Application) will involve the design and construction of a 10-foot paved shared use path extending 0.5 miles from Williamsburg Avenue to Government Road. The amount of TA funding requested for FY19 is anticipated to be \$420,000 (80%) of the FY2019 – FY2020 TA Program for Phase II design and construction. A City match (20%) of \$105,000 will be required, if federal funding is approved, for a total Phase II cost estimated at \$525,000.

Gillies Creek Greenway Phase III will involve the design and construction of a 10-foot paved shared use path extending 0.5 miles from Government Road to Jennie Scher Road. The amount of TA funding requested for FY20 is anticipated to be \$420,000 of the FY2019 - FY2020 TA Program. A City match (20%) of \$105,000, if federal funding is approved for FY20, for a total Phase III cost estimated at \$525,000.

Combined Phase II + Phase III project cost is estimated at \$1,050,000. Total \$840,000 (80%) federal TA funds are being requested in FY19 & FY20. This program requires a 20% City match. If federal funding for this project is received, the City will need to budget matching fund in the amount of \$210,000 (FY19- \$105,000 and FY20 - \$105,000) through the upcoming CIP budget.

The TAP application process requires a Council Public Hearing of the Resolution to be held and submitted to VDOT prior to November 1, 2017, the application deadline.

FISCAL IMPACT/COST: If federal funding for this project is received, the City's share will be 20% of the total project cost in the amount of \$210,000 (FY19- \$105,000 and FY20 - \$105,000). The City will need to fund this via future CIP budgets upon federal grant approval.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: N: Not adopting this resolution will not allow the project to compete for the Federal Transportation Alternatives funds.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY: No.

REVENUE TO CITY: \$840,000 (FY19 - \$420,000; FY20 - \$420,000) if federal TAP Funds are approved by VDOT.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption.

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: September 11, 2017.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: September 25, 2017.

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent Agenda

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee (LUHTSC) on September 19, 2017

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: None

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Department of Public Works; Law Department; Planning and Development; Economic and Community Development; Department of Public Utilities; Finance Department; Budget and Strategic Planning; Copies also sent to: City Mayor (Levar M. Stoney); Chief Administrative Officer (Selena Cuffee-Glenn); and Robert C. Steidel, Acting Deputy CAO of Operations.

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: None

REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S): Small maintenance costs are expected in the future years after construction is completed.

ATTACHMENTS: Transportation Alternative Set Aside Sample Resolution.

STAFF: Michael B. Sawyer, PE, City Transportation Engineer, DPW, 646-3435
Jakob C. Helmboldt, Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Trails Coordinator, DPW 646-7141