



CITY OF RICHMOND

Department of Planning & Development Review *Staff Report*

Ord. No. 2022-257 – To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the total amount of \$2,358,999.00 from the Virginia Department of Transportation, to amend Ord. No. 2022-055, adopted May 9, 2022, which accepted a program of proposed Capital Improvement Projects for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and the four fiscal years thereafter, adopted a Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, and determined a means of financing the same, to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal year 2022-2023 Capital Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to certain Department of Public Works' Highway Safety Improvement Program projects in the Transportation Category by \$2,358,999.00 for the purpose of funding the implementation of various pedestrian safety improvements throughout the city of Richmond.

To: City Planning Commission
From: Department of Public Works
Date: September 19, 2022

PETITIONER

Bobby Vincent, Director, Department of Public Works

LOCATION

Various locations throughout the City of Richmond

PURPOSE

To amend Ord. No. 2022-055 adopted May 9, 2022, which adopted the Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2023; to accept funds in the amount of \$2,358,999.00 from the Virginia Department of Transportation; and to appropriate said funds to the Department of Public Works' Highway Safety Improvement Program projects in the Transportation Category for the purpose of funding the implementation of various pedestrian safety improvements throughout the city of Richmond, which include:

- Systemic Pedestal to Mast Arm Signal Improvements (UPC 110841) - \$420,475.00
- Pedestrian Improvements Citywide - Phase 1B (UPC 116746) - \$181,554.00
- Pedestrian Safety Improvements with HAWKS and RRFB (UPC 110880) - \$292,222.00
- Bus Transfer Center - Pedestrian Improvements at US360 with SR161 (UPC 113813) - \$892,636.00
- Phase 2 - Pedestrian Safety Improvements - Citywide (UPC 110844) - \$572,112.00

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

Updates to appropriations for the specific aforementioned projects within the Transportation Category of the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2023 – 2027 are necessary since the Federal/State funds for these projects were awarded\allocated after the FY23 CIP Budget was proposed.

The scope of these projects are as follow:

- **Systemic Pedestal to Mast Arm Signal Improvements (UPC 110841) - \$420,475.00**

This project provides for the modernization of pedestal pole mounted traffic signals to overhead mast arm mounted indicators at Cary Street and Jefferson Street, Cary Street and Adams Street, Cary Street and Foushee Street, Grace Street and Madison Street, and Monument Avenue and Thompson Street. Converting pedestal mounted signal indications to overhead mast arm signal indications will increase and improve the signal indicator visibility, and reduce crashes and red light running. This provides a comprehensive systemic approach to all transportation users' safety, particularly in our walkable street grid.

- **Pedestrian Improvements Citywide - Phase 1B (UPC 116746) - \$181,554.00**

The Pedestrian Safety Improvements Citywide Project is focused on improving pedestrian safety along the major Federal routes (US1, US60, US250, and US360) as well as the major State Routes (SR10, SR33, SR147, SR150, and SR161) using an FHWA-supported systemic safety approach. This project focuses on the signalized intersections and includes low cost safety improvements that can be widely deployed (e.g. calculating Pedestrian Level-of-Service [LOS], traffic signal retiming, enhanced crosswalks and markings, pedestrian countdown signals and push buttons, and accessible ramps). Phase 1 covered the retiming on the signalized intersections at major federal and state routes. Also, as part of the Phase 1, several intersections under these routes received the installation of high visibility crosswalk.

Pedestrian Safety Improvements Citywide - Phase 1B concentrates on building accessible ramps, installing accessible pedestrian push button and replacing or installing countdown indicators at the intersections of Chamberlayne Avenue with Lombardy Street, Chamberlayne Avenue with Brookland Park Boulevard, Cowardin Avenue with Semmes Avenue, and Cowardin Avenue with Hull Street and Richmond Highway.

- **Pedestrian Safety Improvements with HAWKs and RRFB (UPC 110880) - \$292,222.00**

By addressing and treating active, unsignalized pedestrian crossings with systemic safety measures, pedestrians will have the access, time and space at these important intersections to walk across these major urban arterials. Through High-Intensity Activated crossWalk (HAWK), multi-lane threat issues will be addressed. Through Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB), two-lane arterials with few gaps to cross will be addressed in a cost effective manner. Through enhanced pedestrian crosswalks and markings, walking areas will be better defined for all users as it will be clearer to motorists that pedestrians have a dedicated space within the crosswalk.

Through accessible ramps, all pedestrians with mobility issues will be able to access the vast city network of sidewalks and transit stops. This provides a comprehensive systemic approach to pedestrian safety on our major federal and state urban arterials.

- **Bus Transfer Center - Pedestrian Improvements at US360 with SR161 (UPC 113813) - \$892,636.00**

This project provides for the modernization of traffic signal located at the intersection of Hull Street (US360) and Belt Blvd (SR161) from span wire to mast arm mounting indicators. As part of the project, the signalized intersection will receive the installation of new mast arm poles, traffic signal cabinet and controller, pedestrians' indicators (countdown) and upgrade of the traffic signal communication devices. In addition, sidewalk connection within the intersection, pedestrians' high visibility crosswalks and wheelchair ramps will be installed as part of the project.

- **Phase 2 - Pedestrian Safety Improvements - Citywide (UPC 110844) - \$572,112.00**

The Pedestrian Safety Improvements Citywide Project is focused on improving pedestrian safety along the major Federal routes (US1, US60, US250, and US360) as well as the major State Routes (SR10, SR33, SR147, SR150, and SR161) using a FHWA-supported systemic safety approach. This project focuses on the signalized intersections and includes low cost safety improvements that can be widely deployed (e.g. calculating Pedestrian Level-of-Service [LOS], traffic signal retiming, enhanced crosswalks and markings, pedestrian countdown signals and push buttons, and accessible ramps). Phase 1 covered the retiming on the signalized intersections at major federal and state routes. Also, as part of the Phase 1, several intersections under these routes received the installation of high visibility crosswalk.

Pedestrian Safety Improvements Citywide - Phase 2 will concentrate the effort in building accessible ramps, installing accessible pedestrian push button and replacing or installing countdown indicators.

Staff recommends approval of this request.

Staff Contact:

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