



**Date:** March 6, 2012

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Mark D. Ahrendsen, Director of Transportation  
Felix C. Nwoko, Transportation Planning Manager  
**Subject:** Agenda Item – City of Durham and NCDOT FY 2011-12 Transportation Planning Grant Project Ordinance Superseding “Transportation Planning Grant Project Ordinance #14144”

### **Executive Summary**

The Transportation Department is requesting an amendment to the FY 2011-12 Transportation Planning Grant Project Ordinance #14144 to reflect budget revisions requested by the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill, a pass-through grant recipient. The proposed amendment will increase the City of Durham FY 2012 Transportation Planning funds by \$516,000 (\$412,800 federal and \$103,200 local) and the Town of Chapel Hill FY 2012 Transportation Planning funds by \$37,500 (\$30,000 federal and \$7,500 local). This amendment is necessary to allow the City of Durham to undertake planning and design work for Morreene Road, Cornwallis Road, Carpenter Fletcher Road and Hillandale Road bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and also for the Town of Chapel Hill to conduct planning and environmental work for Ephesus Church Road.

This proposed grant project ordinance (Attachment 1) will supersede Grant Project Ordinance #14144 adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2011.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the City of Durham and the North Carolina Department of Transportation - Section 104(f) and Section 133(b)(3)(7) Transportation Planning Grant Project Ordinance – FY 2011-2012 grant project ordinance superseding Grant Project Ordinance #14144.

### **Background**

The City of Durham serves as the Lead Planning Agency (LPA) for the DCHC MPO. The City of Durham is awarded a grant annually by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to conduct transportation planning. The City of Durham Department of Transportation receives this grant in order to carry out a comprehensive, continuing and cooperative transportation planning process as required by the federal transportation legislation, SAFETEA-LU and other federal planning requirements. The City Manager is authorized to execute the agreement within the terms of the “Disbursement and Accounting of Urban Transportation Planning Funds Appropriated Under Section 104(f), Title 23 United States Code” and the “Disbursement and Accounting of Transportation Funds Appropriated Under Section 133(b)(3)(7), Title 23 United States Code”

agreements with the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Pursuant to that agreement, the City “passes through” portions of the grant funds (as approved by the TAC) to the Town of Carrboro, Town of Chapel Hill, Orange County, TTA and the Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG). The City Council in turn approves a Grant Project Ordinance that includes grants for the aforementioned sub-recipients. The proposed amendment reflects an increase of \$516,000 (\$412,800 federal and \$103,200 local) and \$37,500 (\$30,000 federal and \$7,500 local) for the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill, respectively. This amendment is necessary to allow the City of Durham to undertake planning and design work for Morreene Road, Cornwallis Road, Carpenter Fletcher Road and Hillandale Road bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and also for the Town of Chapel Hill to conduct planning and environmental work for Ephesus Church Road.

### **Issues and Analysis**

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) of the DCHC MPO approved \$516,000 and \$37,500, respectively, in federal funds for the City of Durham bike and pedestrian projects planning and design work and the Town of Chapel Hill Ephesus Church Road Study (see attachment #2). In order to seek reimbursement and pass-through these funds to the Town, this increase must be reflected in the City FY 2011-12 Grant Project Ordinance (GPO).

### **Alternatives**

The City Council can adopt or not adopt the new transportation planning grant project ordinance.

- A. Approving the request will allow the Town of Chapel Hill to continue the Ephesus Church Road study and for the City of Durham to conduct the planning, design, and environmental work for the Morreene Road, Cornwallis Road, Carpenter Fletcher Road and Hillandale Road bicycle and pedestrian projects.
- B. If the City Council does not adopt the Transportation Planning Grant Ordinance:
  - 1. The Town of Chapel Hill and the City of Durham will be unable to undertake the proposed planning, design and environmental work for the aforementioned projects.
  - 2. The Town of Chapel Hill would be unable to fulfill a contractual obligation with the consultant undertaking the Ephesus Church Road project without these grant funds.

### **Financial Impact**

The proposed grant project ordinance amendment requires an increase of \$103,200 in City of Durham local non-federal matching funds. The funds are available in the Capital Improvement Program’s Federal-State Matching Projects account.

### **SDBE Summary**

Due to the nature of this project, an SDBE summary is not needed.

### **Attachments:**

- Attachment 1 – Proposed Grant Project Ordinance (GPO) Superseding GPO #14144
- Attachment 2 – TAC approved UPWP Amendment Funding Tables