



Date: April 17, 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 #14242”

Executive Summary

The Transportation Department is requesting an amendment to the FY 2011-12 Transportation Planning Grant Project Ordinance #14242 to reflect an amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) requested by the City of Durham and approved by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). The proposed amendment will de-obligate the City of Durham FY 2012 Transportation Planning funds by \$516,000.00 (\$412,800.00 federal and \$103,200.00 local). The \$516,000.00 will be re-obligated in the FY 2013 budget. This amendment is necessary to allow the City of Durham to re-allocate funds for the planning and design work for Morreene Road, Cornwallis Road, Carpenter Fletcher Road and Hillandale Road bicycle and pedestrian facilities from FY 2012 to FY 2013.

This proposed grant project ordinance (Attachment 1) will supersede Grant Project Ordinance #14242 adopted by the City Council on April 2, 2012.

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 #14242.

Background

The City of Durham serves as the Lead Planning Agency (LPA) for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (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 activities for the MPO. 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 a decrease of \$516,000.00 (\$412,800.00 federal and \$103,200.00 local). This amendment is necessary to de-obligate funds for planning and design work for Morreene Road, Cornwallis Road, Carpenter Fletcher Road and Hillandale Road bicycle and pedestrian facilities originally anticipated to commence in the current fiscal. Due to a delay in consultant solicitation and securing federal sign-offs, these work activities will not commence in this fiscal year. The funds for this work will be reprogrammed in next fiscal year (FY 2013).

Issues and Analysis

The Durham Walks! Pedestrian Plan and the Durham Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan, adopted in 2006, call for pedestrian and bicycle improvements along the following corridors:

1. Morreene Road from Erwin Road to Neal Road.
2. Carpenter-Fletcher Road from Woodcroft Parkway to Aston Avenue.
3. Cornwallis Road from South Roxboro Street to Chapel Hill Road
4. Hillandale Road from I-85 to NC 147

The TAC provided federal funds (\$516,000.00) for planning and design work for these projects in the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program. The City is in the process of selecting consultants to undertake planning, environmental and functional design work for these projects with work scheduled to start in summer or fall of 2012. The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) of the DCHC MPO approved an amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program that included the de-obligation of \$516,000.00 allocated for the City of Durham bike and pedestrian project planning and design work (see attachment #2) so that these funds can be programmed in the FY 2013 Unified Planning Work Program.

Alternatives

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

- A. Approving the request will allow funds to be moved from the current fiscal year (FY 2012) to next fiscal year (FY 2013). Also, approving the request will allow the City to conduct the planning, design, and environmental work for the Morreene Road, Cornwallis Road, Carpenter Fletcher Road and Hillandale Road bicycle and pedestrian projects in upcoming fiscal year.
- B. If the City Council does not adopt the Transportation Planning Grant Ordinance:
 1. The City of Durham will be unable to undertake the proposed planning, design and environmental work for the aforementioned projects.
 2. The implementation of bicycle and pedestrian improvements along these facilities as called for in the Durham Walks! Pedestrian Plan and the Durham Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan would be affected.

Financial Impact

The proposed grant project ordinance amendment will require moving \$103,200.00 in City of Durham local non-federal matching funds from FY 2012 to FY 2013. 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 #14242

Attachment 2 – TAC approved UPWP Amendment Funding Tables