



Date: March 18, 2014

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Mark Ahrendsen, Director of Transportation
Subject: Grant Agreement for Sidewalk Construction on Campus Walk Avenue and LaSalle Street (TIP # C-5178)

Executive Summary

The City of Durham has received a grant to construct sidewalks on Campus Walk Avenue and LaSalle Street. Total available funding from the grant and local match is \$336,250. The grant amount is \$269,000, which is 80 percent of the total, along with a 20 percent local match of \$67,250 from the City. An additional \$4,606 is needed for inspections and testing expenses, which increases the total local funding for the project to \$71,856. The Public Works Department will manage the project. To utilize these funds, the City Council must approve a CIP Ordinance Amendment and a resolution accepting the funds and authorizing the City Manager to execute grant agreements with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council adopt an ordinance amending the General Capital Improvement Project Ordinance, Fiscal Year 2013-14, as amended, the same being Ordinance # [14464](#), for the purpose of receiving the federal funds. It is further recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant agreement with NCDOT. City Council’s approval of the resolution and CIP Ordinance Amendment does not authorize construction. Contract awards for construction will occur through subsequent action by the City Council.

Background

The need for sidewalks on Campus Walk Avenue and LaSalle Street was identified in the 2006 DurhamWalks! Pedestrian Plan. While there is some existing sidewalk along both streets, the project will add additional segments of sidewalk to close gaps and increase connectivity. On LaSalle Street, the project will provide a complete sidewalk on both sides of the street between Erwin Road and Kangaroo Street (the project will extend a few feet north of Kangaroo Street to connect to a bus stop). For Campus Walk Avenue, the project will provide a complete sidewalk on the north side of the street between LaSalle Street and Morreene Road, including a short sidewalk on Morreene to connect to a bus stop.

Funding for the project is from Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds approved for the project by the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO). The Public Works Department has prepared construction drawings for the project in-house. It is anticipated that the construction of the sidewalks will be complete by March 2016.

In conjunction with the project, marked crosswalks and pedestrian signals will be installed at the LaSalle-Campus Walk and Morreene-Campus Walk intersections.

Alternatives

The Durham City Council could decide to:

- Approve the recommended resolution and CIP Ordinance Amendment; or,
- Send the item back to staff for further review; or,
- Not approve the resolutions and CIP Ordinance Amendment.

Financial Impacts

The federal CMAQ funds require a local match of \$67,250. An additional \$4606 is needed for inspections and materials testing (to cover expenses that NCDOT will not reimburse), which increases the total local funding for the project to \$71,856. Funds are available in the Federal-State Match CIP fund to provide this match from account number 3612L010-764000-LC100. The administration of these projects will require a commitment of staff resources.

SDBE Summary

The municipal agreements with NCDOT require that their procedures be followed for these projects. The Department of Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance did not review this item for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

Attachments:

Attachment A – CIP Ordinance Amendment

Attachment B – Grant Resolution

Attachment C – NCDOT Grant Agreement for Project C-5178

Attachment D – Vicinity Map