

DURHAM



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CITY OF MEDICINE

CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

**DATE:** November 18, 2014

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Mark D. Ahrendsen, Director of Transportation  
**Subject:** Request to approve USDOT SHRP-2 C16 Grant Project Ordinance (GPO), \$50,000 for the Evaluation of the Impacts of Smart Growth on Travel Demand

### **Executive Summary**

The Transportation Department is recommending approval of a United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) grant project ordinance (GPO). The City of Durham, on behalf of the Durham-Chapel-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization, was awarded a grant for \$50,000 for the evaluation of the impacts of smart growth on travel. The proposed GPO will allow the City to receive the grant funds from USDOT.

### **Recommendation**

The Administration recommends the City Council adopt the USDOT SHRP-2 C16 Grant for the evaluation of the impacts of smart growth on travel demand Grant Project Ordinance (GPO).

### **Background**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO) is a recipient of a USDOT grant for \$50,000 for the evaluation of the impacts of smart growth on travel demand. The DCHCMPO will work with our regional stakeholders to implement a tool to conduct scenario planning of smart growth policies and determine their impact on travel demand, evaluate regional scenarios based on changes in built environment and transportation supply, and evaluate a series of performance measures resulting from smart growth such as community impacts, environmental and energy impacts, travel impacts, financial and economic and location impacts.

Adopting the proposed GPO will allow the City to receive the funds and commence work associated with the development of the smart growth project.

### **Issues/Analysis**

The City can accept or reject the proposed GPO by adopting or not adopting the attached GPO. The work associated with the smart growth evaluation project will be undertaken through consulting services. In order for the City to be reimbursed, it must adopt the attached GPO.

**Alternatives**

- Adopting the attached grant project ordinance will allow the City to receive the USDOT grant funds for the smart growth evaluation project.
- If the City Council does not adopt the grant project ordinance, the DCHCMPO will not undertake the project. Grant funding will be forfeited.

**Financial Impact**

The grant award to the MPO is \$50,000. This grant does not require any local matching funds. The proposed project will not require additional funds from the City.

**SDBE Information**

Not applicable.

**Attachments**

- USDOT SHRP- 2 C16 Grant for the evaluation of the impacts of smart growth on travel demand Grant Project Ordinance (GPO).
- USDOT SHRP- 2 C16 Grant award letter