



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: May 20, 2014

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Mark Ahrendsen, Director of Transportation
Subject: Supplemental Agreement for Safe Routes to School Project near Fayetteville Street Elementary School

Executive Summary

On September 8, 2009, the City Council authorized the City Manager to execute a grant agreement with the N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to provide \$249,900 to improve conditions for walking and bicycling in the vicinity of Fayetteville Street Elementary School. The project has been designed by Public Works staff but additional funds are needed in order to move forward with construction. The DCHC MPO has allocated an additional \$200,800 in federal STP-DA funds to the project, which requires a 20 percent local match of \$50,200 from the City. NCDOT has prepared a Supplemental Agreement for the additional funding and to extend the completion date of the project. For the project to move forward, the City Council must approve a CIP Ordinance and a resolution accepting the additional funds and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Supplemental Agreement with NCDOT. The FY 2014-15 General Capital Improvement Project Ordinance will be coming before Council during the same agenda cycle as this item. The Budget department has included the appropriation of the additional \$200,800 to the existing Federal and State Match Project.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Supplemental Agreement with NCDOT. City Council's approval of the resolution does not authorize construction. Contract awards for construction will occur through subsequent action by the City Council.

Background

In April 2005, a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) training course was held at Fayetteville Street Elementary School in Durham. As a result of this training, The City of Durham became eligible to apply for funding for programs and improvements to enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to Fayetteville Street Elementary School.

In October 2007, NCDOT issued a call for SRTS demonstration project applications. City of Durham and Fayetteville Street Elementary School staffs reviewed the recommendations developed during the 2005 training and developed an application for

funding. In December 2007, the City Council adopted a resolution expressing support for the application and willingness to administer the funds.

In 2008, NCDOT notified the City of Durham that the Fayetteville Street Corridor had been selected for SRTS funding. The funding was approved for the construction of approximately 650 feet of sidewalk along the east side of Fayetteville Street between Cornwallis Road and Homeland Avenue, and the relocation of the curb and construction of sidewalk over an existing culvert on the east side of Fayetteville Street between Homeland Avenue and Pilot Street.

A third aspect of the SRTS project is the modification of pavement markings and the addition of appropriate signage on Fayetteville Street from Cornwallis Road to George Street to better accommodate bicyclists and enhance operations. This work will be done after the sidewalks have been constructed and the road is resurfaced by NCDOT.

Issues/Analysis

City Council's approval of the Supplemental Agreement does not authorize construction. Contract awards will occur through subsequent bid awards by the City Council. Under the terms of the agreement, the project must be completed within 18 months of the execution of the Supplemental Agreement.

Alternatives

The Durham City Council could decide to:

- Approve the recommended resolution and CIP Ordinance Amendment; or,
- Not approve the resolution and CIP Ordinance Amendment.

Financial Impacts

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding is 100 percent federal funding and does not require a local match. The \$200,800 in federal STP-DA funds requires a local match of \$50,200. Funds are available in the Federal-State Match CIP fund to provide the match. The administration of this project will require a commitment of staff resources.

The total project cost is \$454,567. This figure includes construction as well as construction administration and inspections, testing, temporary construction easements, and a contingency reserve. There were no external costs for project design since the design was prepared in-house by staff in the Public Works Department.

Preliminary cost estimates for the project were prepared in 2008. City staff applied for the maximum amount of funding available through the Safe Routes to School Program (\$250,000), with the knowledge that additional funding might be needed when final design and detailed cost estimates were prepared. In addition, material costs are higher now than in 2008, and the Federal Highway Administration has put into place additional requirements for construction administration, inspections, and testing that have increased the cost of constructing projects using federal funds.

SDBE Summary

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 – Resolution --- Fayetteville Street Elementary School Project

Attachment B – Supplemental – Fayetteville Street Elementary School Project

Attachment C – Map