



Date: April 9, 2015

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Mark D. Ahrendsen, Director of Transportation
Subject: Inter-local Agreement between the City of Durham and the MPO Member Agencies for Local Matching Funds for Federal Transportation Planning Grants.

Executive Summary

The City of Durham, the Town of Chapel Hill, the Town of Carrboro, the Town of Hillsborough, Durham County, Orange County, Chatham County and Triangle Transit are members of the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) and have entered into agreements to make on-going transportation decisions within the Metropolitan Planning Boundary (MAB) covered by the DCHC MPO. Federal transportation funds generally provide 80% of the total cost of projects authorized by the DCHC MPO, while local governments provide the remaining 20% of the total cost (“the local match”). The Lead Planning Agency (LPA) for the DCHC MPO is the City of Durham Transportation Department. The LPA must administer and manage the DCHC MPO projects that benefit the entire metropolitan area.

The proposed Inter-local Agreement will allow the aforementioned MPO members to reimburse the City their proportionate share of local match of the LPA planning activities.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council resolve that the City Manager be authorized to execute inter-local agreements between the City of Durham and the following MPO member agencies for local matching funds for federal transportation planning grants:

- The Town Carrboro
- The Town of Chapel Hill
- The Town of Hillsborough
- Chatham County
- Durham County
- Orange County
- Triangle Transit

Background

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 MPO transportation planning. The LPA receives this grant in order to carry out a comprehensive, continuing and cooperative transportation planning process as required by the federal transportation legislation, MAP21, and other federal planning requirements. The funds are used for planning activities such as the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), update of the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), air quality analysis, congestion management process, corridor and sub-area studies, transit planning, bicycle-pedestrian planning, climate change/greenhouse emission planning, data collection, socio-economic data projections, update and maintenance of the travel forecast model, and related tasks.

The Lead Planning Agency (LPA) for the DCHC MPO is the Department of Transportation (Planning Division) of the City of Durham. The City has been designated by the Governor of the State of North Carolina as the Lead Planning Agency for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO) to be responsible for carrying out the provisions of Section 134, Title 23, and United States Code. The LPA must administer and manage the DCHC MPO planning activities and projects and coordinate payment of the "local match" contributions from the member governments. MPO member agencies contribute on annual basis their proportionate share of non-federal match of transportation planning funds to support the DCHC MPO federally mandated transportation planning activities.

Alternatives

- A. Approving these agreements provide the mechanism for the aforementioned MPO member agencies to make contributions to the MPO local matching funds required for federal transportation grants.
- B. Not approving the Inter-local Agreements and the financial burden of meeting the matching funds for future MPO transportation planning activities will be borne by the City.

Financial Analysis

The proposed Inter-local agreements will not require additional funds from the City and would require the aforementioned MPO member agencies to contribute to the LPA, the City of Durham, on annual basis their proportionate share of non-federal match of transportation planning funds to support the DCHC MPO federally mandated transportation planning activities.

SDBE Summary

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

Attachment

- City of Durham and the Town of Carrboro Inter-local Cooperation Agreement. Local Match for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO Federal Transportation Planning Grant).

- City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill Inter-local Cooperation Agreement. Local Match for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO Federal Transportation Planning Grant.
- City of Durham and the Town of Hillsborough Inter-local Cooperation Agreement. Local Match for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO Federal Transportation Planning Grant.
- City of Durham and Chatham County Inter-local Cooperation Agreement. Local Match for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO Federal Transportation Planning Grant.
- City of Durham and Durham County Inter-local Cooperation Agreement. Local Match for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO Federal Transportation Planning Grant.
- City of Durham and Orange County Inter-local Cooperation Agreement. Local Match for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO Federal Transportation Planning Grant.
- City of Durham and Triangle Transit Inter-local Cooperation Agreement. Local Match for the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHCMPO Federal Transportation Planning Grant.