


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 29, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION TO THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 TRANSPORTATION/LAND USE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM (TLC) GRANT

ISSUE: Consideration of a resolution supporting an application to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board (TPB) for fiscal year 2010 Transportation/Land Use Connections Program (TLC) grant.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to:

- (1) Submit a TLC grant application in the amount of \$60,000 to create a GIS application for use in development proposals utilizing data from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan. The application will identify key pedestrian and bicycle improvements to be made in conjunction with new development, and improve overall non-motorized accessibility; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents that may be required.

BACKGROUND: The Transportation/Land Use Connections program, established as a pilot program by the Transportation Planning Board in 2006 provides support to local governments in the region to enhance transportation and land use coordination. Twenty – nine technical assistance projects have been approved in 16 jurisdictions. Grants vary in amount from \$10,000-\$60,000 and the TPB has made a minimum of \$220,000 available for FY 2010. The City has previously been awarded a TLC grant for the review of the City's Transportation Management Plan Special Use Permit program.

DISCUSSION: The TLC grant program makes funds available for focused consultant assistance to local jurisdictions working on projects that integrate transportation and land use planning. This grant proposal is to create a GIS application to identify key improvements between proposed development projects (or existing activity centers) and nearby transit centers. To do this, GIS will calculate an “accessibility index” for pedestrian and bicycle travel from the proposed development and the transit center.

The GIS interface will also identify key improvements along the travel route which, if made, would enhance the pedestrian/bicycle experience by:

- Creating new pedestrian/bicycle links that shorten travel distance; and
- Addressing other pedestrian/bicycle infrastructure gaps.

The GIS interface will access data from the City’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility plan (adopted as part of the Transportation Master Plan in June 2008) , which is a comprehensive database of recommended improvements to the City’s bicycle and pedestrian network. This project will interface with initiatives already underway by the City’s GIS division to integrate data from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan with efforts to build a citywide pedestrian/bicycle network model for use in such applications as Safe Routes to School programming, the optimization of emergency center locations for the distribution of medicine based on pedestrian access for the City’s Health Department, and optimizing effectiveness of the sidewalk network. This grant provides an opportunity to expand the scope of those efforts and maximize the use and benefit of the bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure data and apply it in the review of new development applications.

This project will be managed by the Transportation division of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services and the GIS division of the Department of Planning and Zoning. The grant applications are due on May 18, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT: The TLC grants provide 100% funding with no local match required. The grant application will be for a total amount of \$60,000, if awarded. The grant requires staff time from members of the Transportation & Environmental Services, Planning & Zoning, Finance, and Office of Management and Budget.

ATTACHMENT: Resolution for TLC grant

STAFF:

Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
Bruce Johnson, Chief Financial Officer
Emily Baker, Acting Director, T&ES
Faroll Hamer, Director, P&Z
Tom Culpepper, Deputy Director, T&ES
Steve Chozick, Division Chief/GIS, P&Z
Sandra Marks, Principal Transportation Planner, T&ES
Yon Lambert, Principal Transportation Planner, T&ES

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Transportation/Land Use Connections Program of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by City Council, via resolution, be made in order that the Transportation/Land Use Connections Program could consider funding a grant request in the amount of \$60,000 to create a GIS application to calculate an "accessibility index" for pedestrian and bicycle travel from existing activity centers or proposed development projects to Metro stations, and the identify key improvements that are needed to enhance the experience for these pedestrian/bicycle trips and improve overall non-motorized accessibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City Manager is authorized, for and on behalf of the City of Alexandria, hereafter referred to as the PUBLIC BODY, to execute and file an application to the Transportation Planning Board, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, hereafter referred to as the BOARD, for financial assistance in the amount of \$60,000 to defray the costs borne by the PUBLIC BODY for developing the GIS user interface for development applications; and to accept from the BOARD reimbursements in such amounts as expenses are submitted, and to authorize the City Manager to furnish the BOARD grants in such amounts as may be awarded, and to authorize the City Manager to furnish to the BOARD such documents and other information as may be required for processing the application. The City Council certifies that the funds shall be used in accordance with the requirements of Section 58.1-638.A of the Code of Virginia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the PUBLIC BODY is not required to provide local matching funds and that the records of receipts of expenditures of funds granted the PUBLIC BODY may be subject to audit by the BOARD and by the State Auditor of Public Accounts, and that funds granted to the PUBLIC BODY for defraying the expenses of the PUBLIC BODY shall be used only for such purposes as authorized in the Code of Virginia. The undersigned duly qualified and acting as City Clerk of the PUBLIC BODY certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution, adopted at a legally convened meeting of the City Council held on the 12th day of May 2009.

ADOPTED: _____
Date

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:

JACQUELINE M. HENDERSON CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 2333

WHEREAS, in accordance with Transportation/Land Use Connections program of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by City Council, via resolution, be made in order that the Transportation/Land Use Connections program could consider funding a grant request in the amount of \$60,000 to create a GIS application to calculate an "accessibility index" for pedestrian and bicycle travel from existing activity centers or proposed development projects to Metro stations, and the identify key improvements that are needed to enhance the experience for these pedestrian/bicycle trips and improve overall non-motorized accessibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City Manager is authorized, for and on behalf of the City of Alexandria, hereafter referred to as the PUBLIC BODY, to execute and file an application to the Transportation Planning Board, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, hereafter referred to as the BOARD, for financial assistance in the amount of \$60,000 to defray the costs borne by the PUBLIC BODY for developing the GIS user interface for development applications; and to accept from the BOARD reimbursements in such amounts as expenses are submitted, and to authorize the City Manager to furnish the BOARD grants in such amounts as may be awarded, and to authorize the City Manager to furnish to the BOARD such documents and other information as may be required for processing the application. The City Council certifies that the funds shall be used in accordance with the requirements of Section 58.1-638.A of the Code of Virginia.

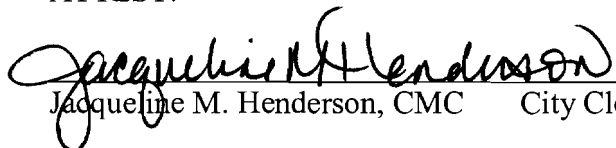
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the PUBLIC BODY is not required to provide local matching funds and that the records of receipts of expenditures of funds granted the PUBLIC BODY may be subject to audit by the BOARD and by the State Auditor of Public Accounts, and that funds granted to the PUBLIC BODY for defraying the expenses of the PUBLIC BODY shall be used only for such purposes as authorized in the Code of Virginia. The undersigned duly qualified and acting as City Clerk of the PUBLIC BODY certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution, adopted at a legally convened meeting of the City Council held on the 12th day of May 2009.

ADOPTED: May 12, 2009



WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:



Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk