



Date: December 20, 2016

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Terry Bellamy, Director of Transportation
Subject: Inter-local Agreement with NCDOT and the City of Raleigh for the NC-98 Corridor Study

Executive Summary

The City of Durham, the City of Raleigh, and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) are jointly developing a corridor study for NC-98. The study will examine mobility issues along NC-98 from the interchange with US-70 in Durham through northern Wake County to US-401 in Franklin County. The scope of the project is threefold: to complete an environmental and transportation inventory of the corridor, to conduct an analysis of transportation alternatives for the corridor that addresses mobility and safety in addition to multi-modal issues, and to develop standards and implementation strategies for the preferred alternative. The work associated with the corridor study will be undertaken through consulting services and managed by the City of Raleigh and the Lead Planning Agency for the Capital Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). Requests for the proposals were solicited by Raleigh. A selection committee comprising of Durham, Raleigh, and NCDOT staff reviewed the proposals to determine each firms' strengths and qualifications, and as a result, WSP-Parsons Brinckerhoff was selected.

The total budget for the project is \$300,000. Per the Inter-local Agreement, the City of Durham would be responsible for \$75,000 Federal funds through the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) will supply 80 percent of the \$75,000 provided by the City of Durham; local funds will supply the remaining 20 percent.

Recommendation

The Department of Transportation recommends that the City Council resolve that the City Manager be authorized to execute the Inter-local Agreement among NCDOT, the City of Raleigh and the City of Durham for the development of the NC-98 Corridor Study.

Background

The DCHC MPO, which includes the City of Durham, must carry out a continuing comprehensive and cooperative process of transportation planning to maintain eligibility for federal transportation funding. As part of this process, DCHC MPO works with its partners and member jurisdictions on projects that are cross-jurisdictional and regionally important. In its capacity as Lead Planning Agency for the DCHC MPO, the City of Durham has participated actively in the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Improvements to NC-98 in the study corridor are called for in the MTP for both the DCHC MPO and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO).

This study is a joint effort by the City of Durham, the City of Raleigh, and NCDOT in furtherance of implementation of the MTP. The total budget for the project is \$300,000.00. The jurisdictions have proposed to split the cost as follows:

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|-------------------|-----|--------------|
| • City of Raleigh | 42% | \$125,000.00 |
| • NCDOT | 33% | \$100,000.00 |
| • City of Durham | 25% | \$ 75,000.00 |

Authorizing the execution of the Inter-local Agreement will allow the City to reimburse the City of Raleigh for its share of the project cost. This project has been approved by the MPO Board and is included in its Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

The work associated with the development of the NC-98 Corridor Study will be undertaken through consulting services. The proposals to provide the NC-98 Corridor Study development services were solicited by CAMPO. Staff reviewed the proposals to determine the firms' respective strengths and qualifications, and as a result, selected WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff (WSP PB) as the preferred consultant.

Issues and Analysis

The development of the NC-98 Corridor Study will meet the federal metropolitan transportation planning requirement that calls for the DCHC MPO to address roadway congestion in its planning process and long range transportation plan. The purpose of the proposed study is to assess and provide alternatives to address future capacity needs within the corridor. Currently, the MTP for both DCHC MPO and CAMPO, as well as the Franklin County CTP recommend a four-lane facility for NC-98 by 2040 (NC-98 is currently a two-lane facility for a substantial majority of the corridor, though it consists of four lanes throughout much of the portion that falls within the City of Durham's jurisdiction). This study will determine if that recommendation is the most appropriate course of action, and whether other improvements (such as bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvements) are also being warranted.

Alternatives

- Authorize the City Manager to execute the attached Inter-local Agreement with the City of Raleigh and NCDOT. Funds will be available to carry out the development of the NC-98 Corridor Study as approved by the MPO Board. The City will reimburse the City of Raleigh 20 percent of the project costs or \$75,000.
- The City Council could choose to not authorize the City Manager to execute the Inter-local Agreement. Consequently, the City would not contribute its local funds to the project; therefore, it will not benefit from being a participant in this regional endeavor. Also, if the City does not provide funding for the project, the DCHC MPO will not benefit from further development of the corridor study plan or the proposed NC 98 Corridor Study will not be undertaken.

Financial Impact

The total budget for the NC-98 Corridor Study is \$300,000, of which the City of Raleigh is contributing 42 percent, NCDOT 33 percent, and the City of Durham 25 percent. Of the City of Durham's funding for this project, 80 percent (\$60,000) has been allocated by the DCHC MPO from federal STP-DA funds, which the City of Durham may disburse in its capacity as

Lead Planning Agency for the MPO. The remaining 20 percent (\$15,000) of the funding is available within the Department of Transportation's operating budget.

UBE Information

Due to the nature of this agreement, this item was not reviewed for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contract.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Inter-local Agreement between the City of Durham, the City of Raleigh and NCDOT