



Date: August 7, 2023

To: Wanda S. Page, City Manager
Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager
From: Sean C. Egan, Director of Transportation
Subject: Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for Durham Bike Facilities II TIP # BL-0028

Executive Summary

The City of Durham's Transportation Department has received federal funding through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program and the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) for the design and construction of buffered bike lanes on three priority bicycle corridors identified in the *Bike + Walk Implementation Plan* including W Club Blvd from Washington St to Broad St, Foster St / Corcoran St / Blackwell St from the American Tobacco Trail trailhead to Washington St, and Chapel Hill St from Swift Ave to Ramseur St.

It is estimated that a total of \$1,217,072 is needed for design and installation of pavement markings on the BL-0028 Durham Bike Facilities II project. The federal funding amount is \$851,950 and the City is providing a local match of \$365,122. To utilize the federal funds, the City Council approved a resolution accepting the funds and authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The ordinance for this grant agreement was Ordinance # 16175, and this was approved at the June 20, 2023 City Council Meeting.

Motion

To authorize the City Manager to execute the municipal agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the Durham Bicycle Facilities II project (TIP # BL-0028) in the amount of \$1,217,072.

Background

The *Bike + Walk Implementation Plan*, adopted in 2017, identified priority corridors in need of bicycle improvements based on a network analysis, prioritization process, and public input collected during the planning process. The BL-0028 municipal agreement will fund the design and installation of buffered bike lanes on three of these priority corridors from the *Bike + Walk Implementation Plan*:

1. W Club Blvd, Washington St to Broad St,
2. Foster St / Corcoran St / Blackwell St, ATT trailhead to Washington St, and
3. Chapel Hill St, Swift Avenue to Ramseur St.

The buffered bicycle lanes to be installed on these three streets will provide safe and convenient bicycling connections between downtown, surrounding neighborhoods, and Durham's most popular trails.

Rather than waiting for these changes to be made through routine street resurfacing, the Department applied for federal funding for construction of buffered bicycle lanes on these three streets. The final selection of the three BL-0028 bicycle corridors was completed after analyzing cost, connectivity, safety, public engagement, geographic equity, and impact to other road users, as well as ensuring that these corridors were not identified for routine resurfacing in the next three years.

Federal funding for the project is being provided with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program funds and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. The municipal agreement will require a thirty percent (30%) local match (\$365,122) from the City. Funding for this project was appropriated as a function of the FY24 CIP Ordinance (#16175) during the June 20, 2023 Durham City Council Meeting.

| Project Name | Agreement Total | Fed % | Fed Amount | Local % | Local Amount |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-------|------------|---------|--------------|
| Durham Bike Facilities II | \$1,217,072 | 70% | \$851,950 | 30% | \$365,122 |

These federal funds are passed through the City via the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The project is in the approved Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) Transportation Improvement Program and State Transportation Improvement Program.

Issues and Analysis

Road Impacts: The modification of lane lines will, in some instances, require removing the existing thermoplastic striping through grinding before restriping the road with the new design. While effort was made to minimize the amount of grinding that needs to occur, there may be some impact to the condition of the road.

Project Timeline: Design work for this project is expected to begin this year once a design consultant is procured by the Transportation Department and approved by NCDOT. The design phase of this project is expected to take place in the summer of 2023 and include additional opportunities for public input on the design of bicycle facilities on each street. The Transportation Department estimates that the project will be let for construction within the next year and completed in 2024.

Alternatives

The Durham City Council could decide to:

- Approve the recommended agreement; or,
- Send the item back to staff for further review; or,
- Not approve the agreement.

Financial Impact

Funding for this project is available in the following account:

| Fund | Organization Code | Object Code | Project Code | Amount |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Professional Services | 3000LG00 | 731002 | LC521 | \$110,644 |
| Construction | 3000LG00 | 731000 | LC521 | \$1,106,428 |
| Total | | | | \$1,217,072 |

Funding for this project was appropriated as a function of the FY24 CIP Ordinance (#16175) during the June 20, 2023 Durham City Council Meeting.

Equal Business Opportunity Summary

The municipal agreements require that the City follow NCDOT procedures for these projects. This item was not reviewed for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

Contractor Workforce Diversity & Hiring Practices

Due to the nature of this agenda item, obtaining Contractor Workforce Diversity & Hiring Practices information is not applicable.

Attachments

Map of BL-0028 Durham Bike Facilities II
NCDOT Municipal Agreement