



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 Neighborhood Bike Routes II TIP # BL-0031

Executive Summary

The City of Durham's Transportation Department has received federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds for the design and construction of bicycle boulevards on approximately 8 miles of local streets identified in the *Neighborhood Bike Routes Concept Plan*. Bicycle boulevard improvements to be designed and constructed include wayfinding signage, pavement markings, and selected traffic calming measures that give priority to people on bike or on foot.

It is estimated that a total of \$403,890 is needed for design and construction on the BL-0031 Neighborhood Bike Routes II project. The federal funding amount is \$282,723 and the City is providing a local match of \$121,167. 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 # 16176, 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 Neighborhood Bike Routes II project (TIP # BL-0031) in the amount of \$403,890.

Background

Neighborhood bike routes, commonly known as bicycle boulevards, are streets with low motorized traffic volumes and speeds, designated and designed to give bicycle travel priority. Bicycle boulevards use signs, pavement markings, and speed and volume management measures to discourage through trips by motor vehicles and create safe, convenient bicycle crossings of busy arterial streets.

The City of Durham received a Federal Highway Administration grant from the Congestion Management and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program to fund the initial planning and design of Durham's neighborhood bike route network in 2018. Planning activities included the completion of a Neighborhood Bike Routes Concept Plan that identified seven (7) miles of pilot neighborhood bike routes and an additional eight (8) miles of future neighborhood bike routes across Durham. The City hosted several neighborhood meetings in 2018 to collect feedback on the proposed routes in each quadrant of the city. Additional public input was collected at several events hosted by

Bike Durham. Feedback provided on the proposed routes was incorporated into the final network routing and design recommendations.

The remaining 2018 CMAQ funding was then used to fund the design and construction of the first 7 miles of pilot neighborhood bicycle routes. These seven (7) miles of C-5605I Neighborhood Bike Routes are scheduled to be installed in spring 2023.

The BL-0031 Neighborhood Bike Routes II municipal agreement will provide federal STBG funding for the design and construction of the additional eight (8) miles of neighborhood bicycle routes identified in the Neighborhood Bike Routes Concept Plan along the following corridors:

- Englewood Ave; Georgia Ave to Watts St;
- Knox St, Watts St to Acadia St;
- Bivins St, Chapel Hill Rd to Arnette Ave;
- Iredell St, Us 70 Business (Main St) To West Club Blvd;
- Maryland Avenue, W Club Blvd to Ellerbe Creek Trail;
- Cleveland St / Corporation St, Us 70 Business / Holloway St to Rigsbee Ave;
- Juniper St, Spruce St to Guthrie Ave;
- Lincoln St / Grant St, Lawson St to Lakeland St;
- Ridgeway Ave / Lakeland St, Lawson St to Mathison St;
- Lavender Ave, Elgin St to Stephenson St;
- Stephenson St, Lavender Ave to Club Blvd; and
- Umstead St / Lodge St, Fayetteville St to Fargo St.

The wayfinding and traffic calming installed on these neighborhood bike routes will establish a network of safe local streets that prioritize people navigating by bike or on foot to popular destinations across Durham.

Federal funding for the BL-0031 Neighborhood Bike Routes II project is being provided with federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. The municipal agreement will require a thirty percent (30%) local funding match (\$121,167) from the City. Funding for this project was appropriated as a function of the FY24 CIP Ordinance (#16176) during the June 20, 2023 Durham City Council Meeting.

Project Name	Agreement Total	Fed %	Fed Amount	Local %	Local Amount
Neighborhood Bike Routes II	\$403,890	70%	\$282,723	30%	\$121,167

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

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 neighborhood

bike routes 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
Construction	3000LG00	731000	LC620	\$403,890

Funding for this project was appropriated as a function of the FY24 CIP Ordinance (#16176) 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-0031 Neighborhood Bike Routes II
NCDOT Municipal Agreement