



Waynesboro City Council Agenda Briefing

Meeting Date:	October 24, 2016	Staff/Council Member(s): Jim Shaw, Deputy City Manager/ Michael Barnes, Director of Planning
Agenda Item #	4a	
Resolution#		
Department:	City Manager's Office/Planning Department	
Subject:	South River Greenway Trail Phase 3 Grant Application	

Background: Since 1999, the City has utilized a series of Federal grants administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation to fund Phases 1 and 2 of the South River Greenway Trail, as well as Downtown streetscape improvements. The City has completed Phase 1 of the greenway from Arch Avenue to Constitution Park and we are nearing completion of Phase 2A of the greenway, which will run along the South River from the Dominion Pavilion in Constitution Park to the Shiloh Baptist Church. Phase 2B of the greenway trail, which would extend the trail to North Park, is fully engineered and construction is partially funded; the City, however, must be granted necessary right of way to advance this phase. The City staff now proposes to submit a grant application to pursue Phase 3 of the South River Greenway Trail, which will extend from the current terminus of Phase 1 at Loth Springs near the YMCA upstream to the pedestrian bridge in Ridgeview Park.

The City would apply for a Federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) through VDOT. Funding for these projects pays for engineering, right of way acquisition, utility relocation, and construction activities with the grant paying for 80% of the project costs and the locality paying 20%. The current TAP application deadline is November 1st. As part of the application, the locality's governing body is required to provide a resolution of support for the project.

South River Greenway Phase 3: In 2001, the City Council adopted a Conceptual Greenway Development - South River Trail Plan which has served as a blueprint for subsequent local greenway development. The 2001 Plan proposes a trail originating at the current Loth Springs trailhead following Arch Avenue south across Wayne Avenue, then along Rife Road/16th Street to Pine Avenue, Oak Avenue and Cliff Side Drive. Cliff Side Drive is a City street that is closed to vehicular traffic and provides access into Ridgeview Park. The Plan also proposed an alternate route whereby the greenway would cross Wayne Avenue then make its way to 14th Street, then through the Tree Streets to Ridgeview Park.

The 2001 Plan notes that in any case this would be a diverse trail section combining traditional trails, sidewalks and on-street facilities. Key concerns include creating a safe crossing at Arch Avenue and Wayne Avenue, finding the most feasible and cost effect route through the Tree Streets and clearly delineating public/private space along Cliff Side Drive.

It is the staff recommendation to apply for TAP Grant funds to engage engineering services to determine a final alignment for this trail section and to develop design detail construction drawings for the project to support future grant applications.

The current estimate to complete design engineering and improvements contemplated in the 2001 Greenway Plan is approximately \$963,000. According to the guidelines of the TAP grant program, the City would be responsible for 20 percent of the cost or \$192,000. It is unlikely that the City would request or receive the entire grant amount in a single grant cycle. A more reasonable amount for the first year would be \$200,000.

City Manager's Recommendation: The City's initial Greenway Trail has been a great success and we are excited to soon open an additional stretch of trail. This proposal allows the City to pursue a logical third phase of the trail system. The City Manager recommends support for the project.

Suggested Motion: A motion should be made to endorse and application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant to pursue Phase 3 of the South River Greenway Trail.

Attachments: 1) Resolution
2) Excerpts from the 2001 document "Greenway Development - South River Trail"

CITY COUNCIL OF WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA



RESOLUTION

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE PROJECT
SOUTH RIVER GREENWAY PHASE 3**

Whereas, in accordance with the Commonwealth Transportation Board construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that a resolution be received from the sponsoring jurisdiction or agency requesting the Virginia Department of Transportation establish a Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside project to be administered by City of Waynesboro.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the City of Waynesboro, requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a project for the South River Greenway, Phase 3; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the City of Waynesboro hereby commits to provide a minimum 20 percent matching contribution for this project and any additional funds necessary to complete the project; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the City of Waynesboro hereby agrees to enter into a project administration agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation and provide the necessary oversight to ensure the project is developed in accordance with all state and federal requirements for design, right of way acquisition, and construction of a federally funded transportation project; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the City of Waynesboro will be responsible for maintenance and operating costs of any improvement / facility constructed with Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside funds unless other arrangements have been made with the Department; and

Be It Further Resolved, that if the City of Waynesboro subsequently elects to cancel this project, the City of Waynesboro hereby agrees to reimburse the Virginia Department of Transportation for the total amount of costs expended by the Department through the date the Department is notified of such cancellation. The City of Waynesboro also agrees to repay any funds previously reimbursed that are later deemed ineligible by the Federal Highway Administration; and

Be It Further Resolved, that City Council of Waynesboro hereby grants authority for the City Manager to execute project agreements for any approved Transportation Alternatives Set-aside projects for Fiscal Year 2018-22.

Signed: _____, Mayor,
Waynesboro City Council

Attest: _____, Clerk







