DATE: January 14, 2014

SUBJECT: Applications to the United States Department of Transportation for grants through the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP).

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Approve grant applications to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) for funding of two projects under the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP).

ISSUES: This is a request to approve an application for federal grant funding for two transportation projects. There are no known issues.

SUMMARY: Arlington is requesting approval to apply for FLAP grant funding for two projects: 1) Capital Bikeshare expansion along the George Washington Memorial Parkway; and 2) The Army Navy Drive Multimodal Access Improvement Project.

BACKGROUND: FLAP is a new federal grant program intended to improve transportation access to federal properties. Nearly any transportation-related improvement can qualify, but there must be a clear nexus to federal property. There is approximately $3,000,000 in total grant funding available for projects in the Commonwealth of Virginia, which will be allocated through a competitive process. The grants require a minimum 20 percent local match, but projects offering a larger local match will be more competitive. Projects must be endorsed by the federal agency whose land they connect to in order to receive funding.

DISCUSSION: FLAP grants are expected to be in the range of $200,000 - $700,000 per award. Arlington proposes to apply for two projects.

1. Capital Bikeshare expansion along the George Washington Memorial Parkway
   Arlington is proposing to request $280,000 in grant funds, matched by $195,000 in local funds. This will expand the popular regional bikesharing network with eight additional stations along and in the vicinity of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. If approved, grant funds will provide for stations at the following locations:
Arlington Cemetery Metro
Air Force Memorial
Pentagon entrance at Army Navy Drive
Roosevelt Island entrance
Rosslyn Circle
Gravelly Point
Reagan National Airport (2 stations)

These eight stations have a total project cost of $475,000, of which $280,000 is proposed to be funded using FLAP monies, with a $195,000 local match (41% of the total).

2. **Army Navy Drive Multimodal Access Improvement Project**

   Arlington is proposing to request $700,000 in grant funds, matched by $2,150,000 in local funds. This project will redesign 3,300 feet of Army Navy Drive from Joyce Street to 12th Street South. It will provide physically separated two-way protected bicycle lanes, shorter and safer pedestrian crossings, and will include accommodation of a future fixed-rail streetcar line (currently under County administration as a separate project), all without a reduction in vehicle travel lanes.

   Army Navy Drive is the key arterial street linking the Pentagon, I-395, and the Pentagon City / Crystal City transit oriented activity center. It is currently designed primarily to funnel automobiles on and off I-395, and is extremely inhospitable to pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users. These roadway users include tens of thousands of people coming and going to the Pentagon on a daily basis.

   Conversion of Army Navy Drive to a complete multimodal street will vastly improve the local connection between the Pentagon and other Department of Defense sites nearby and the commercial, residential, and retail services of the Pentagon City and Crystal City areas, as well as to the many Department of Defense subcontractors with offices in those locations. FLAP funds are proposed to be used to aid construction of the project after preliminary engineering and construction engineering have been completed.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** This program requires a minimum 20 percent local match. If Arlington’s applications are successful, matching funds for the bikeshare project will be provided using $195,000 from the Arlington Pay-As-You-Go decal fee program that are already programmed for bikeshare expansion. Matching funds for the Army Navy Drive project will be provided using $2,150,000, already programmed in the FY2013-FY2022 Capital Improvement Plan via the Crystal City – Pentagon City – Potomac Yard Tax Increment Fund, the Transportation Capital Fund, and developer contributions. The Army Navy Drive project will require $2,993,000 in additional funds beyond this grant request and match, as planned in the FY 2013 – FY 2022 CIP, to come from a mix of potential future local and state funding.
November 18, 2013

Mr. David Payne
Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division
Federal Highway Administration
21400 Ridgetop Circle
Sterling, Virginia 20166

Dear Mr. Payne:

The National Park Service (NPS), National Capital Region (NCR) is in full support of the applications for Virginia Federal Access Program funding for transportation improvements in proximity to George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP), Manassas National Battlefield Park (MANA), Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (POHE), and Prince William Forest Park (PRWI).

We submit the following projects for consideration:

GWMP Rehabilitation of Old Dominion Drive and ITS Improvements
MANA US Route 29 Traffic Impact Mitigation Study
GWMP Capital Bikeshare Expansion
POHE Trailhead at Virginia Railway Express
PRWI VA-234 Multi-Use Trail
MANA Repair and Repave Featherbed Lane

Transportation improvements to these locations are critical because they affect many users including motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, transit riders and national park visitors. The projects proposed in the applications from NPS have a diversity that meets the mission of the program to “improve access and through federal lands for visitors, recreationists and resource users.” The NPS has worked closely with sponsors from Virginia Department of Transportation, Arlington County, Prince William County Department of Transportation and Prince William Department of Parks and Recreation to collaborate on project components and scope and development of budgets.

Your consideration of this project proposal is greatly appreciated. Please contact Ms. Makayah Royal at (202) 619-7092 or via e-mail at makayah_royal@nps.gov if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephen E. Whitesell
Regional Director