



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of December 13, 2008**

DATE: November 26, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval of a Sub-Recipient Agreement between the County Board and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (“WMATA”) for the Clarendon Metro Park Plaza Improvements Project (“Improvements”).

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the attached Sub-Recipient Agreement between the County Board and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (“WMATA”) allowing Arlington County to be reimbursed for expenses associated with the Clarendon Metro Park Plaza Improvements Project.
2. Authorize the County Manager to execute the Agreement on behalf of the County Board, subject to approval of the Agreement as to form by the County Attorney.
3. Authorize expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$301,471 for improvements to the Clarendon Metro Park Plaza to be reimbursed from Clarendon Canopy Project and Metro Park Improvements Project grants, local match, and Arlington County Business Improvement Program Bonds funds (jointly “Remaining Funds”) currently on deposit at WMATA.

ISSUES: WMATA no longer administers and manages the design and construction of reimbursable projects of local jurisdictions, including the County. There is a total of \$301,471 in Remaining Funds for improvements to the Clarendon Metro Park Plaza (consisting of \$222,213 in FTA Grant funds, \$55,554 in local match funds and \$23,704 FY99 Arlington County Business Improvement Program Bonds) on deposit at WMATA, which Remaining Funds will be used by Arlington County to administer and manage the design and construction of the Improvements.

SUMMARY: WMATA obtained grants from the Federal Transit Administration (“FTA”) to design and construct, in part, the Clarendon Canopy Project and Metro Park Improvement Project (“Project”). Arlington County previously provided the requisite matching funds as required by the FTA.

In 2006, the existing canopy at the Clarendon Metro station was installed and funded by WMATA under its “Metro Matters” Canopy program. The Remaining Funds are now available

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Tom Hutchings, DES-Transportation Planning

to the County to provide improvements at the Clarendon Metro Park Plaza. The County will administer and manage the construction of these improvements.

BACKGROUND: After it was determined that the WMATA funded canopy would be constructed at the Clarendon Metro station, it was agreed by both WMATA and Arlington County that the balance of the reimbursable grant funding for the Project would be devoted to designing and implementing improvements to the Clarendon Metro Park Plaza to the extent that the funds permitted. With the concurrence and agreement of the WMATA Project Manager, the County began working on the design of the Improvements early this year. WMATA requested a Sub-Recipient Agreement with the County in order to document the transfer of the Remaining Funds used for the design and construction of the Improvements. **See Attachment A - Project Overview**, for additional information about the project design and community involvement.

Significant historical dates concerning the planning, design and construction of the Project are listed below:

- 1996 Initial Transportation Enhancement Grant approved for the canopy design.
- 1997 Federal Funding earmarked for the canopy.
- 1999 Clarendon alliance Urban Design Committee begins community outreach
- 2001 WMATA develops request for proposal to design Clarendon Canopy and Metro Park.
- 2003 Project expanded to include Metro Park, 13th Street Park and Community Canine area.
- 2003 HOK selected to design canopy and park.
- 2004 HOK begins design work.
- 2005 No community consensus on designs from Community Parks and Canopy Workshops.
- 2005 WMATA offers to include Clarendon in Phase II canopy installations.
- 2006 WMATA installs canopy.
- 2008 Arlington requests to locally administer Project using Remaining Funds.
- 2008 Original Project scope reduced to Metro Plaza areas only to match remaining budget.
- 2008 Kimley Horn prepares plaza design with Clarendon Alliance and community support.
- 2008 Project requires Sub-Recipient Agreement between WMATA and Arlington.
- 2009 Project completion anticipated.

DISCUSSION: The Project is located between Wilson and Clarendon Boulevards at the eastern end of the Park and goes from the Clarendon Metro escalators to the elevator. The work that Arlington is implementing includes new pavers, removal of the center grass berm, new seating, lighting, and landscaping, and drainage improvements (jointly “Improvements”). In a later phase, covered bike parking will be installed and funded from a separate Federal Transit Grant. The Remaining Funds will be used only for the continued design and construction, to the extent that the funds permit, of the publicly vetted design. Upon completion, the Improvements will update the Plaza and better accommodate public events including the Farmer’s Market.

The Sub-Recipient Agreement is attached to this Board Report designated as Exhibit 1. WMATA has indicated by email that the Agreement is acceptable to WMATA and will be signed after the Agreement is approved by the County Board. Upon Arlington County Board approval, the Sub-Recipient Agreement will be forwarded to WMATA for approval and execution.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is a total of \$301,471 in Remaining Funds for improvements to the Clarendon Metro Park Plaza (consisting of \$222,213 in FTA Grant funds, \$55,554 in local match

funds and \$23,704 FY99 Arlington County Business Improvement Program Bonds) on deposit at WMATA which will be used by Arlington County to administer and manage the design and construction of the Improvements.