



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item Meeting of July 11, 2009

DATE: June 17, 2009

SUBJECT: Funding Request for Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Program Projects.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION

Approve the use of a total of \$3,300,030 of Neighborhood Conservation bond funds for the priority neighborhood projects listed in Attachment A as approved by the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) for Spring 2009, and authorize the County Manager to proceed with implementation of these projects.

ISSUE: This is a request for approval of NCAC recommended projects from the Spring 2009 funding session.

SUMMARY: The Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) considered 17 first priority neighborhood projects from member neighborhoods at the June 11, 2009 meeting. Of these requests, nine are recommended for funding. Staff concurs with the NCAC, and recommends approval of the priority neighborhood projects listed in Attachment A.

BACKGROUND: This is the second funding session of the 2008 Neighborhood Conservation Bond. The NCAC continues to utilize a "Points Committee" process. This Committee has the responsibility for rating and ranking projects submitted for funding and reporting its recommendations to the NCAC as a whole. The points system used by the Committee is intended to provide guidance regarding project funding rather than strictly imposing limitations or setting up an inflexible ranking system. The points system assigns a numerical value to proposals based on the following criteria:

- Neighborhoods that have recently completed new plans or plan updates
- Number of rounds with a qualified unfunded project
- First project after a newly-accepted NC plan
- Alternate funding source with a written commitment
- Implementation phase of a project previously funded for planning
- Small projects
- Park projects
- Sidewalk project which abuts any arterial(s)

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Angela Courtney, Department of Community Planning, Housing & Development, NC Planner

- Sidewalk project within ¼ mile of any arterial(s)
- Sidewalk project where previously there is no complete sidewalk on either side

After neighborhood presentations, the NCAC considered its recommendations regarding the distribution of bond funds based on the following:

- The funding session information package
- Testimony and discussion
- The report of the Points Committee

The NCAC currently reviews only qualified first priority neighborhood projects. All projects were chosen in priority ranking order and nine were selected.

DISCUSSION: The combined value of all nine first-priority projects is within the acceptable limits defined by the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee, which requests full funding for these projects. The projects are listed in Attachment A, which shows the amount recommended to be allocated to the project from Neighborhood Conservation funds (NC Net Project Dollars), any alternate funding (from other County sources) that will be used, and the total estimated cost of the project. Staff concurs with this recommendation, and recommends that the County Board approve the nine first priority-projects at the amounts shown for Neighborhood Conservation funding.

Of the nine projects recommended for funding at the June 11, 2009 NCAC meeting, 7 projects include street lights – tallying to a total of 72 new street lights. As part of the recently completed Neighborhood Conservation street improvement project on N. Quantico Street between Washington Blvd. and 19th St. N., we are piloting the use of light emitting diode (LED) street lights in residential neighborhoods. While LED technology is already used in the County’s traffic signals, the four LED street lights recently installed on N. Quantico St. mark the first time LEDs have been used in the County’s single family residential areas. DES is monitoring the energy usage and durability of the LED street lights and is hoping to obtain sufficient data for cost and energy savings analysis within the next year. If the data supports it, we will install LED lighting in all of the NC projects current recommended for County Board approval, as well as any other NC street lighting installations currently in the design stage.

FISCAL IMPACT: The \$3,300,030.00 for proposed and existing projects is recommended for allocation from the November 2008 voter-approved \$9,000,000 Community Conservation Bond. Funds will be appropriated to the projects at the time the bonds are sold.

2008 Bond:

\$9,000,000.00	2008 Bond Amount
- \$3,031,209.00	Recommended Projects (Fall 2008)
- \$3,300,030.00	Recommended Projects (Spring 2009)
\$ 2,668,761.00	Remaining for additional projects