



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of February 23, 2008**

DATE: February 8, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval of a Standard Project Administration Agreement between the County Board and the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the Development and Administration of Six Revenue Sharing-funded Transportation Projects: 1) Signal Upgrades – Various Locations; 2) Old Dominion Drive Sidewalk/Pedestrian Improvements – Phase II; 3) Washington Boulevard Shared Use Path – Phase II; 4) Lee Highway at Glebe Road Intersection Improvements; 5) Five Points Intersection Improvements; and 6) Fairfax Drive – Sidewalk/Pedestrian Improvements.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the Standard Project Administration Agreement between the County Board of Arlington, Virginia and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Transportation (VDOT) for six Revenue Sharing-funded transportation projects and authorize the County Manager on behalf of the County Board to execute the Agreement, subject to approval of the Agreement as to form by the County Attorney.

2. Approve and Appropriate:
 - 1) \$100,000 in State Revenue Sharing funds for Signal Upgrades - Various Locations;
 - 2) \$225,000 in State Revenue Sharing funds for the Old Dominion Drive Sidewalk Improvements - Phase II;
 - 3) \$400,000 in State Revenue Sharing funds for the Washington Boulevard Shared Use Path - Phase II;
 - 4) \$75,000 in State Revenue Sharing funds for the Lee Highway (Route 29) at Glebe Road;
 - 5) \$100,000 in State Revenue Sharing funds for the Five Points Intersection Improvements; and
 - 6) \$100,000 in State Revenue Sharing funds for the Fairfax Drive - Sidewalk/Pedestrian Improvements for a total of \$1,000,000 to be allocated the Department of Environmental Services Capital Account.

ISSUES: Arlington County has been awarded State revenue sharing funds for six transportation improvement projects. Timely execution of the Standard Project Agreement will enable the County to proceed with implementation of these priority projects.

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: William Roberts, Department of Environmental Services, DOT

SUMMARY: This is a request for approval of an Agreement for development and administration of six State Revenue Sharing-funded transportation projects intended to improve multimodal safety and mobility and provide improved amenities for pedestrians and bicyclists in Arlington.

BACKGROUND: At its meeting of December 9, 2006, the County Board adopted a Resolution requesting revenue sharing funding for several multi-modal improvement projects in various locations throughout Arlington. Since then, the Commonwealth Transportation Board adopted the budget for FY 2008, and VDOT determined which localities are to be awarded revenue-sharing funds.

DISCUSSION: Attached is the Standard Project Agreement to be used for the funding of the six projects. The six projects which are the subject of the Agreement are described below.

- 1) Signal Upgrades at Various Locations** will reduce energy consumption through the use of LED technology. Arlington County began to install LED lights at signalized intersections throughout the County seven years ago. To date, 180 intersections in the County have been completely upgraded with LED signals. The requested funds will allow the County to retrofit the remaining 60 incandescent light intersections with LEDs. Currently, Arlington County maintains and operates 260 signalized intersections with approximately 5,500 signal heads. Studies conducted by County staff and the Federal Highway Administration show that retrofitting the bulbs in traffic signals with LEDs provides a substantial reduction in energy cost, as well as longer expected life, reduction in burn-outs, improved safety at intersections, reduced maintenance cost, and reduced county liability in cases of collisions. This funding will allow staff to proceed with the retrofit of 12" and upgrade all 8" traffic signals and pedestrian lights with LEDs. These additional 60 intersections would complete the County's program to change out all incandescent lamps.

The estimated cost for the project is \$300,000. Funding for this project is provided by: State Revenue Sharing funds (\$100,000) to be matched by \$100,000 in County funds and an additional \$100,000 in County unmatched funds.

- 2) Old Dominion Drive Sidewalk/Pedestrian Improvements - Phase II** includes the construction of curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and drainage improvements along Old Dominion Drive (Route 309) from North Glebe Road to the Fairfax County line. Design of this project is nearly complete. Phase I, Old Dominion Drive from Lee Highway to North Glebe Road, pending Virginia Department of Transportation final review, is scheduled to be constructed in summer 2008. This Agreement will provide the additional funds necessary to construct this final phase of the project.

The estimated cost for this portion of the project is \$450,000. Funding for this project is provided by: State Revenue Sharing funds (\$225,000) to be matched by \$225,000 in County funds.

- 3) Washington Boulevard (Route 27) Shared Use Path - Phase II** includes the construction of a portion of a shared use (bike and pedestrian) path adjacent to

The estimated cost for this portion of the project is \$800,000. Funding for this project is provided by State Revenue Sharing funds (\$400,000) to be matched by \$400,000 in County funds.

- 4) **Lee Highway (Route 29) at Glebe Road Intersection Improvements** includes the preliminary engineering (PE) of dedicated left-turn lanes. Since early 2002, Arlington County staff conducted numerous safety and intersection studies of this location, and it is envisioned that this intersection will continue to be a major activity node. The intersection is currently signalized with pedestrian crosswalks across all legs; however, despite high pedestrian and vehicular traffic, this intersection lacks dedicated left-turn lanes. This agreement will fund a survey and preliminary engineering study of the intersection. Depending on the outcome of PE, construction funds could be sought in future-year revenue sharing requests.

The estimated cost of the project is \$150,000. Funding for this project is provided by State Revenue Sharing funds (\$75,000) to be matched by \$75,000 in County funds.

- 5) **Five Points Intersection Improvements** includes the preliminary engineering (PE) of left-turn lane improvements at the intersection of Lee Highway, Old Lee Highway, Quincy, Old Dominion and Military Road. The Five Points intersection is a major transportation hub for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit. The intersection of Lee Highway, Old Lee Highway, Quincy, Old Dominion and Military Road has remained high on the County list for pedestrian and safety improvement over the last 10 years. Many of the safety issues are centered on turn movement conflicts and pedestrian safety. The goal is to coordinate the transportation design elements with the urban design guidelines specified in the Cherrydale Plan and to also be consistent with other transportation improvements in the area which include enhancement of transit. Depending on the outcome of PE, construction funds will likely be sought in future-year revenue sharing requests.

The estimated cost of the project is \$200,000. Funding for this project is provided by State Revenue Sharing funds (\$100,000) to be matched by \$100,000 in County funds.

- 6) **Fairfax Drive (Route 237) - Sidewalk/Pedestrian Improvements** includes the preliminary engineering (PE) of improvements to curbs and gutters, bus bays, and sidewalks along the streets surrounding the Ballston Metro station, including Fairfax Drive, Stuart Street and Stafford Street. Depending on the outcome of PE, construction funds will likely be sought in future-year revenue sharing requests.

The estimated cost of the project is \$200,000. Funding for this project is provided by State Revenue Sharing funds (\$100,000) to be matched by \$100,000 in County funds.

Funding Summary:

1) Signal Upgrades at Various Locations:

State Revenue Sharing Funds	\$100,000
Arlington County Matching Funds	\$100,000
Arlington County Unmatched Funds	\$100,000

2) Old Dominion Drive Sidewalk Improvements - Phase II:

State Revenue Sharing Funds	\$225,000
Arlington County Matching Funds	\$225,000

3) Washington Boulevard – Shared Use Path - Phase II:

State Revenue Sharing Funds	\$400,000
Arlington County Matching Funds	\$400,000

4) Lee Highway at Glebe Road Intersection Improvements:

State Revenue Sharing Funds	\$ 75,000
Arlington County Matching Funds	\$ 75,000

5) Five Points Intersection Improvements:

State Revenue Sharing Funds	\$100,000
Arlington County Matching Funds	\$100,000

6) Fairfax Drive - Sidewalk/Pedestrian Improvements:

State Revenue Sharing Funds	\$100,000
Arlington County Matching Funds	\$100,000

FISCAL IMPACT: County matching funds of \$1,000,000 are required for the Signal Upgrades, Old Dominion Drive Sidewalk Improvements - Phase II, Washington Boulevard Shared Use Path - Phase II, Lee Highway at Glebe Road Intersection Improvements, Five Points Intersection – Intersection Improvements and Fairfax Drive - Sidewalk/Pedestrian Improvements projects. In addition, County unmatched funding of \$100,000 is required for the Signal Upgrades project. The total \$1,100,000 of required County funds is available from the previously approved 2006 bond referendum for Transportation Match projects.