



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of March 15, 2008**

DATE: February 22, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval of FY 2008 Commuter Services Program Project Agreement Between the County Board and the Commonwealth of Virginia

C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the attached Project Agreement between the County Board and Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Rail and Public Transportation, and authorize the County Manager to execute the Agreement and other required documents for use of Commonwealth Transportation Funds FY 2008, subject to approval of such Agreement and documents as to form by the County Attorney.
2. Appropriate \$442,374 in grant revenues (101.346002.41150) to the FY 2008 Commuter Services Program, Transportation Planning (101.435600.41150).

ISSUES: Additional State funds cannot be accepted and appropriated for specified activities until these recommendations are approved.

SUMMARY: The Arlington County Commuter Services (“ACCS”) program is funded primarily using State and Federal transportation funds. Each year, ACCS staff submits grant applications to fund various projects and programs that influence people to increase use of transportation options such as transit, walking, bicycling, car/vanpooling, carsharing, and telecommuting. The Project Agreement recommended for execution has been approved by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and funds on-going operational/marketing expenses and two special County projects:

- Transportation Demand Management (“TDM”) research and evaluation, and
- TDM employer services and relocation assistance.

BACKGROUND: The FY 2008 grant application for ACCS programs was considered by the County Board at its February 24, 2007 meeting, at which time a resolution was adopted authorizing application to the State for grant funding. The applications were filed and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation approved funding in the amount of \$1,149,374.

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Paul E Culver, Dept. of Environmental Services – Transportation Division

DISCUSSION: Attached is a “Project Agreement for Use of Commonwealth Transportation Funds Fiscal Year 2008” that funds two special projects and other on-going program expenses. This Agreement has three funding elements: Rideshare Assistance, Technical Assistance, and TDM Employer Services and Relocation Assistance. The Rideshare Assistance is an annual funding source for on-going operational and marketing expenses of ACCS. This fiscal year’s award is \$681,374 and requires no County matching funds. Technical Assistance is another funding source, which was approved for additional research needed to complete an evaluation of ACCS programs to quantify their transportation and air-quality impacts. A total of \$160,000 was awarded and requires a County match of \$160,000. The TDM Employer Services and Relocation Assistance funds the increased need for transportation options and other relocation services for new companies and their employees moving into the County. A total of \$308,000 was awarded and requires a County match of \$77,000. This grant-funded project was not included in the original FY 2008 Commuter Services Program grant application.

FISCAL IMPACT: The total Commonwealth Transportation Funds awarded is \$1,149,374. The FY 2008 Adopted Budget for ACCS includes \$600,000 in Rideshare and \$107,000 in Technical Assistance grants. The actual grant amount is \$442,374 over the FY 2008 ACCS approved budget, which is the additional amount that needs to be appropriated. Anticipated FY 2008 local sources of funds (non-grant funds) will meet the local-match requirement of \$237,000 for both the TDM Employer Services/Relocation Assistance and TDM Research projects.