



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

TO: Mayor & City Council

DATE: October 30, 2012

FROM: John McDonough, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Approval for Public Works to submit an application to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for LCI FY 2013 New Study funding to complete a LCI for the Powers Ferry Node

MEETING DATE: For Submission onto the November 6, 2012, City Council Regular Meeting Agenda

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: *(Attach additional pages if necessary)*

See attached:

Memorandum
ARC LCI Application
Resolution

APPROVAL BY CITY MANAGER: JTM APPROVED

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: 11/6/2012

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL REQUIRED: () YES () NO

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL: SJM

REMARKS:



TO: John McDonough, City Manager

FROM: Garrin M. Coleman, P.E., Interim Public Works Director

DATE: October 24, 2012, for Submission onto the Agenda of the November 6, 2012 City Council Meeting

ITEM: Approval for Public Works to submit an application to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for LCI FY 2013 New Study funding to complete a LCI for the Powers Ferry Node

Public Works Department's Recommendation:

Public Works Staff recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the submission of an application to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) FY 2013 New Study funds to complete a new LCI for the Powers Ferry Node.

Background:

The ARC Board adopted policies in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in May 1999 to provide funding for investment studies and transportation projects located in activity and town centers in the region. This program of studies and projects is known as the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI). Eligible New Study Areas include Local Centers, Regional Centers, and Corridors identified in ARC's Unified Growth Policy Map (UGPM). The selection of new LCI studies will focus on centers that can accommodate development in a mixed-use environment supported by multiple transportation modes, with a modal emphasis on existing or planned transit service.

In the 2027 Sandy Springs Comprehensive Plan, the proposed Powers Ferry Node is designated an employment center on the character area map and as a Land Use Node 5 on the Future Land Use map, promoting a living-working community development. This area serves as an important sub-regional employment center, located in between Cumberland and Perimeter. On the ARC UGPM, the area has been identified as a Regional Employment Corridor and future Transit Station Community. The existing land use includes aging commercial and office investments as well as recently constructed multi-family development. This area is unique because it includes the Chattahoochee River corridor, with direct access to Powers Island and Cochran Shoals and potential for connection to the Palisades within the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area. As a gateway area to Sandy Springs, a sub-regional employment center, and an area where redevelopment is likely in the next five to ten years, the Public Works Department believes this area would make a great candidate for a new study in the LCI Program.

Discussion:

The Public Works Department is seeking the City Council's approval to apply for ARC LCI FY 2013 New Study funding to complete a LCI for the Powers Ferry Node and to obligate local matching funds necessary for the study. If successful, the City would execute a contract with ARC in April 2013. The study will need to be completed by June 30, 2014. **If the application is successful, the City Council will have an opportunity to go forward with the funding or to reconsider.**

Public
Works

Alternatives:

The City Council can elect not to pursue the available funds.

Financial Impact:

The Powers Ferry LCI Study is expected to cost \$150,000.00 dollars. The local match commitment is 20% of the total project cost. The City would be responsible for contributing \$30,000.00.

Attachments:

- I.
 - a. ARC LCI Application
 - b. Proposed Study Area Map

- II. Resolution



Livable Centers Initiative FY 2013 New Study Application

The goal of LCI new studies are to prepare plans for the enhancement of existing centers and corridors consistent with the PLAN 2040 Goals and Objectives.

New Study Eligible Funding Categories

Eligible study areas are listed below and can be identified on the [Unified Growth Policy Map \(UGPM\)](#). Also, see more detail on UGPM Regional Places in the [PLAN 2040 Development Guide](#).

The selection of new LCI studies will focus on *centers* that can accommodate development in a mixed-use environment supported by multiple transportation modes, with a modal emphasis on existing or planned transit service. *Corridors* may be considered, provided that centers along or connecting to the corridor meet the above criteria and that the corridors themselves are developed in a context-sensitive manner, provide complete streets, with supportive access management and nodal development strategies.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss the boundaries of a study location with ARC staff prior to submitting the application for consideration. Appropriately defined LCI study areas must meet one of the following categories:

- **Local Centers:**
Includes, as identified on the UGPM: Town Centers, Crossroads Communities, Village Centers (as well as Major Retail Centers, Wellness and University Districts unless otherwise contained in a *Regional Center* as described below).
- **Regional Centers:**
Includes, as identified on the UGPM and the Regional Development Guide: Regional Centers, Station Communities, Community Activity Centers, and Regional Town Centers.
- **Corridors:**
Eligible corridors include those identified as “Redevelopment Corridors” on the UGPM or any corridor that connects two or more LCI areas or “places” as identified on the UGPM. For purposes of this program > corridors are roadways that are functionally classified as a collector or higher. The corridor study boundaries will be relatively short in length (approximately 1/2 to 4 miles) and should be based on logical termini, not solely on jurisdictional boundaries (this may require joint applications). These study areas will be

focused on creating multi-modal, complete streets connecting LCI areas or existing centers. Land uses between the LCI areas or existing centers should emphasize efficient multi-modal mobility and safety and efficient utilization of existing infrastructure.

If your Comprehensive Plan identifies an area suitable for growth consistent with LCI and PLAN 2040 goals but is not currently reflected as an eligible place on the UGPM, please contact Jared Lombard at Jlombard@atlantaregional.com or (404) 463-3302 regarding updating the UGPM.

In order for a jurisdiction to be considered for an LCI award, it must maintain Qualified Local Government (QLG) status, or show progress toward reinstating QLG status, through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

Priority Areas

Please review Appendix E. LCI Review Criteria for additional information pertaining to the LCI review criteria and eligibility for priority point.

Priority consideration for new studies will be given to locations identified in the medium to very high range on the [Equitable Target Area map](#) (Also, see Appendix B).

The selection of studies will also be prioritized around areas that show a “confluence of opportunities” (as described in the LCI Study Application Information document) – areas that include multiple opportunities for development that support regional goals.

Funding Availability for New Studies

The selected New Study applicants can receive a maximum one time allotment of \$120,000 federal money. Study sponsors are required to provide a minimum of 20% local cash match.

Application Requirements – New LCI Study Areas

All applicants must provide the following items in their application package (*please note and adhere to the page limits of each item*). If your LCI study application has been submitted in past years and was not funded, the concerns raised by ARC and the Review Committee should also be specifically addressed.

PLEASE PROVIDE ENTIRE APPLICATION PACKAGE AS A SINGLE PDF DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF YOUR STUDY AREA IN THE FILE NAME.

1. Complete an LCI **application form**. (attached)
2. Define the proposed **study area** and provide a map. The study area should be clearly defined, focused and of concise size/composition to be manageable and appropriately address the study need. Also identify the study area location within the county. Ensure that all maps include a scale and north arrow, jurisdiction boundaries, major street names and significant landmarks (if any) for orientation purposes (e.g. a university, MARTA station, etc). (3 pages max; 2 maps, 1 narrative page)
3. Identify the source of **matching funds** and provide a resolution from the government or non-profit board acknowledging commitment to develop the study and provide a cash match equivalent to at least 20% of the total study amount. (2 pages maximum)
4. Non-governmental applicants must **submit a letter of coordination/support** from the Chief Elected Official or the City or County Manager. (1 page per letter maximum)
5. Prepare an **issue statement** that clearly identifies the Need and Purpose of the study along with the desired outcomes. Describe how this study and its implementation will address and advance the LCI Program goals listed in Appendix E. (3 pages maximum)
6. Provide a **scope of work** that includes a description of the itemized tasks for the proposed study process. The scope of work and products for a new LCI study area must be consistent with the items listed in Appendix C. (2 pages maximum)
7. Prepare a **budget** for the study (distributed by three line-items: public involvement, study development, study deliverables) and identify the requested LCI funding and local cash match amounts. (1 page maximum)
8. Include a **schedule** for study development and completion. The anticipated execution of contracts with successful applicants will occur in April 2013. All studies must be complete by June 30, 2014. (1 page maximum)
9. Discuss the local planning **outreach process** and include a list of **specific stakeholders** that are proposed to be included in study development, including low income and minority community representatives. Include a description of anticipated methods to ensure meaningful public involvement. (1 page maximum)
10. Describe local activities that **show commitment and ability to implement** the proposed study results and support the stated need and desired outcomes. Examples of local activities include record of complementary projects (e.g. higher density, mixed-use developments), previous studies that relate to the study area, study goals that are consistent with the local comprehensive plan, supporting local development regulations to allow innovative development, etc. (2 pages maximum)
11. Include **appendices** as needed to support the application, including but not limited to: photographs, letters of support, related study summaries, supporting comprehensive plan policies, etc. (10 pages maximum)

Submit applications (one complete PDF version on disk, travel drive, email or FTP) to Marisa Ghani, Land Use Planning Division, ARC, 40 Courtland Street, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30303 by 5:00 p.m., Friday, November 16, 2012.

The LCI Review Committee will receive applications as a PDF. Please ensure the PDF version that you provide with your submittal is a full package, including application form, completed questions, resolution, letters of support, photos, and any other supporting material. Any materials not submitted as a PDF will not be distributed to the LCI Review Committee. If you have problems providing a PDF copy, please contact ARC Land Use staff.

Consultants preparing applications:

Consultants that prepare the LCI study application on behalf of the sponsor will not be eligible to compete for or be awarded the LCI contract should the study be selected. Federal funds require that procurement of professional services be a fair and open process, therefore, the firm that prepared the application for the very project on which they will be bidding gives them “prior knowledge” and an unfair advantage in the procurement process.

It is important to emphasize the unique characteristics of your community. If a community utilizes outside help in preparing the LCI application, local staff should still be involved in the process to ensure the character and needs of the local community are accurately reflected. When feasible, local governments are encouraged to complete the application themselves. If assistance is needed with mapping or other technical data, contact the ARC for assistance.

LCI New Study Application Form

Date: _____

Type of New LCI Study Requested (select one):

- Local Center Regional Center Corridor

Name of responsible organization: _____

Name of contact person: _____

Title: _____ **Department:** _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone:(____) _____ E-mail: _____

Non-profit designation (if applicable): _____

Study area name and location: _____

Total study budget: _____

Funds requested: _____ **Cash Match:** _____

Maximum funding requested: New LCI study areas = \$120,000 (plus \$30,000 local cash match); Supplemental studies and LCI Innovation = \$80,000 (plus \$20,000 local cash match). All studies must include at least 20% cash match of the total study budget.

Is the study proposal consistent with the adopted local Comprehensive Plan? If not, explain:

Signature: _____



National Recreational Area
Powers Island Park

Revive 285 Alternative 6 a/b
Future Transit Station

Riverwood International
Charter HS

Heards Ferry ES



Legend

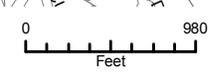
Highway

Parcel

Proposed LCI Study Area

Sandy Springs City Limits

Chattahoochee River



1 inch = 1,100 feet

Prepared by the
City of Sandy Springs Geographic Information Systems
October 23, 2012

This map has been compiled from the most accurate source data from the City of Sandy Springs. However, this map is for informational purposes only and is not to be used as a legal document. The City assumes no legal responsibility for the information shown on this map. For more information, please contact the City of Sandy Springs. Copyright © 2012 City of Sandy Springs. All rights reserved. Maps may be reproduced or transmitted for personal or informational purposes, but not for commercial use. No part of this map may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the City of Sandy Springs. Please do not make any changes to the City of Sandy Springs GIS at (770) 750-5600 or geospatial@sandy SpringsGa.gov

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A FUNDING REQUEST TO THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR LIVABLE CENTERS INITIATIVE (LCI) FY 2013 NEW STUDY FUNDING

WHEREAS, it is necessary, from time to time, to establish policies, procedures and guidelines consistent with the administration of a municipal government consistent with the US Constitution, Federal Statutes, alignment with Federal, Georgia's State Constitution, and the Charter for the City of Sandy Springs, and

WHEREAS, the City Manager directed the Department of Public Works to develop standard policies for recurring matters, to establish appropriate internal controls and legal compliance, and to provide for an efficient and effective means to serve constituents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA

That they approve the submittal of an application for LCI FY 2013 New Study Application to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) in the amount of \$150,000.00; and whereas the City agrees to consider contributing 20% of the total project cost (\$30,000.00) if the City successfully receives a grant award from the ARC.

RESOLVED this the 6th day of November, 2012.

Approved:

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:

Michael Casey, City Clerk
(Seal)