



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

TO: Mayor & City Council

DATE: June 13, 2012

FROM: John McDonough, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: ARC Request for Local Match Funds: Alternatives Analysis for Bus Rapid Transit route extending from City of Atlanta to City of Sandy Springs/Dunwoody

MEETING DATE: For Submission onto the June 19, 2012, City Council Regular Meeting Agenda

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: (Attach additional pages if necessary)

See attached:

Memorandum
Resolution

APPROVAL BY CITY MANAGER: JMM APPROVED

_____ NOT APPROVED

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: 6/19/2012

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL REQUIRED: () YES () NO

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL: JMM

REMARKS:



TO: John McDonough, City Manager

FROM: Kevin J. Walter, Director, Public Works

DATE: June 8, 2012

SUBJECT: ARC Request for Local Match Funds: Alternatives Analysis for Bus Rapid Transit route extending City of Atlanta to City of Sandy Springs/Dunwoody

Background

ARC has set aside some FY12 L230 money which it can re-categorize to initiate the first phase—an Alternatives Analysis (AA)—of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Small Starts project development process for the proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) between the Cities of Atlanta and Sandy Springs/Dunwoody. In order to move forward with the re-categorization of funds and initiate the FTA grant request, ARC must have a commitment of local match. ARC is looking for a commitment for local match to this process as soon as possible. Actual payment of local match funds wouldn't be needed until August or September (2012); however, a commitment is needed now. The current BRT AA project cost estimate is as follows:

Total federal grant available (80%): \$260,000

Local required match (20%): \$65,000

Total Alternatives Analysis project estimate: \$325,000

The Buckhead Community Improvement District (BCID) has already committed up to \$25,000 for local match. Local match support is also being requested by ARC from Perimeter CID, City of Atlanta, and City of Sandy Springs. If \$65,000 was split evenly 4 ways, this would be a commitment of \$16,250 per each. If full amount of local match from BCID is utilized, then an additional \$40,000 will be needed above that which is already committed.

The AA is the first phase of the project development process to be eligible for FTA Small Starts/Very Small Starts grant funding. Following the AA completion, the process proceeds to Project Development, Project Construction/Grant Agreement, and Construction. It is estimated the entire process (to Construction) could take up to 6 years. The AA would provide an assessment of various alignments and stop locations as well as complete the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project.

Currently, the BRT project in TIA (TIA-AT-021A) is identified within Band 2, 2016-2019. TIA has allocated \$50,000,000 for this project, of which, the City of Atlanta has reserved \$6.5M for a FTA Small Starts match. A portion of the funds will be used for pedestrian and bicycle facility



improvements as well as six roadway projects to complement the BRT service within the City of Atlanta limits. The project can move forward through the FTA process with or without TIA passing.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City of Sandy Springs participate in the local match contribution for the BRT AA. A contribution amount of \$20,000 is recommended, which should be sufficient to move the project forward, depending on participation from the City of Atlanta and Perimeter CID. By participating in the local match, the City would be a full-partner in development of the AA for the BRT. Staff also recommends that the City of Sandy Springs coordinate with Atlanta, Perimeter CID, and Buckhead CID to monitor their local match amounts.

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A COMMITMENT OF A LOCAL MATCH FOR AN ARC ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS FOR BUS RAPID TRANSIT ROUTE EXTENDING CITY OF ATLANTA TO CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS/DUNWOODY

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 a commitment to a local match of \$20,000 for an ARC Alternatives Analysis for Bus Rapid Transit between the Cities of Atlanta, Sandy Springs, and Dunwoody.

RESOLVED this the 19th day of June, 2012.

Approved:

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:

Michael Casey, City Clerk
(Seal)