



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

TO: Mayor & City Council **DATE:** March 22, 2011

FROM: John McDonough, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Approval for Mayor to Execute Agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission for LCI Supplemental Funding to Complete a 10-Year Plan Update of the Downtown Sandy Springs Study

MEETING DATE: For Submission onto the April 5, 2011, City Council Regular Meeting Agenda

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

See attached:

Memorandum
Resolution

APPROVAL BY CITY MANAGER: JTM APPROVED

_____ NOT APPROVED

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: 4/5/2011

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL REQUIRED: () YES () NO

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL: [Signature]

REMARKS:



TO: John McDonough, City Manager

FROM: Thomas Black, Public Works Director

DATE: March 22, 2010, for Submission onto the Agenda of the April 5, 2010, City Council Meeting

ITEM: Approval for Mayor to execute agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission for LCI Supplemental funding to complete a 10-Year Plan Update of the Downtown Sandy Springs Study

Public Works Department's Recommendation:

Public Works Staff recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the Mayor to execute a project agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Supplemental funds to complete a 10-Year Plan Update of the Downtown Sandy Springs Study.

Background:

The ARC Board adopted policies in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) proposal 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 has become known as the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI). The focus of the program is to encourage increased residential development, mixed-uses and connectivity in activity and town centers. Due to the success of the initial program, the ARC Board authorized the extension of the LCI program as part of the 2030 RTP with an added focus on corridors and emerging centers as well as town centers and activity centers. In July 2009, the ARC Board extended the program for three additional years of study funds.

The LCI Supplemental Study program is open for funding to all communities that have completed an original LCI study or have been grandfathered by ARC as completing an LCI equivalent study. Furthermore, the community must have submitted an LCI 5-Year Plan Update to ARC, if applicable (currently required for all studies completed in FY 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005). In order for a jurisdiction to be considered for an LCI Supplemental Study award, it must maintain Qualified Local Government (QLG) status, or show progress toward reinstating QLG status through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). LCI Supplemental Studies are intended to provide additional support to communities for activities that substantially advance LCI plan implementation. All supplemental studies must have a clear and direct connection to transportation issues. Supplemental study types must be one of the following categories:

1. *Study, codes, or other follow-up activities.* The intent of this supplemental activity should be to complete a required action that furthers the implementation of the original LCI plan. Examples of eligible studies include, but are not limited to: transportation project feasibility analysis, access

management plans, new zoning ordinance, parking assessments, aging in place codes, overlay districts, design guidelines.

2. *10-Year Plan Update.* LCI communities with plans that are 10 years old may request support to prepare a 10-Year Plan Update. This update must include at a minimum a new market assessment and 5-year action plan. The update should include specific strategies to establish appropriate transit supportive densities or other land use strategies to support alternative modes of transportation. Activities to incorporate Lifelong Communities principles and Green Communities concepts into plan implementation are also encouraged. 10-Year Plan Updates must include at least one public meeting.

Discussion:

In November 2010, upon approval of Mayor and City Council, staff submitted the application to ARC for consideration. On February 23, 2011, ARC notified the City that we have received an award in the amount of \$50,000.

Alternatives:

The City Council can:

1. Decline the award from ARC (\$50,000)
2. Accept the award and execute the project agreement

Financial Impact:

The local match commitment is 50% of the total project cost. City would be responsible for contributing \$50,000. The City could also obtain contributions of other potential stakeholders such as the Downtown Alliance to help fund part of the match requirement.

Additionally, completion of the LCI allows the City to compete for LCI construction funds on the projects proposed in the LCI study.

Attachments

- I. Resolution

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN LCI AGREEMENT WITH THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL 10 YEAR STUDY OF THE DOWNTOWN LCI AREA AND AUTHROIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, it is necessary, from time to time, to establish policies, procedures and guidelines addressing 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,

WHEREAS, upon adoption of this Resolution, City Sandy Springs Public Works Department staff will manage all applicable phases of the project.

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

That they hereby approve an LCI agreement with the ARC for a supplemental study for the downtown area and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

RESOLVED this the 5th day of April, 2011.

Approved:

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:

Michael Casey, City Clerk
(Seal)