



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item Meeting of December 9, 2006

DATE: November 27, 2006

SUBJECT: Application and Resolution for the Arlington County's Participation in the Virginia Department of Transportation's County Primary and Secondary Road Fund Revenue Sharing Program.

C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the County Board Chair to sign the attached letter to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) indicating the County's intent to participate in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07 County Primary and Secondary Road Fund Revenue Sharing Program (Program).
2. Adopt the attached resolution supporting an application for allocation to the County, and requiring a match of \$1,100,000.

ISSUE:

None.

SUMMARY: The attached letter and Resolution provide the necessary notification and serve as an application to VDOT that the County is requesting to receive funds from the FY 2006-07 Revenue Sharing Program. The County would request the annual maximum \$1,000,000 in FY 2006-07. The funding is requested for eight projects:

- Old Dominion Drive
- Washington Boulevard Trail, Phase II
- Ballston Streetscape Improvements (PE)
- Lee Highway at Glebe Road (PE)
- Light Emitting Diode (LED) Change-Out (60 Intersections)
- Arterial Streetlight Underground
- South Glebe Road at Arlington Ridge Road (PE)
- Five-Point Intersection

The County will need to provide more than \$1,000,000 in match in order for the state to consider our projects in the top tier.

County Manager: _____
County Attorney: _____
Staff: Tamara Ashby, Department of Environmental Services, DOT

BACKGROUND: VDOT annually allocates state funds through the Program to counties to construct, maintain or improve primary and secondary highways. Localities can apply for a maximum of \$1,000,000 from the state. Last year, the state provided \$744,920 in FY 2006 funding, and \$63,810 in supplemental money for the Arlington Boulevard – Courthouse Road utility undergrounding project.

Due to changes made to the Program in 2006, localities must provide more than \$1,000,000 in match to be considered in the top tier of projects eligible to receive funding in this cycle. Since only \$15,000,000 was allocated to the Program this year, it is likely that only Tier I projects will be funded. Therefore, staff is recommending that Arlington County offer \$1,100,000 in match money, so that our projects will be considered in Tier I.

DISCUSSION: The attached letter and Resolution state that Arlington County intends to participate in the FY 2006-07 Program up to the maximum amount of \$1,000,000 and, upon appropriation, will provide the required local match. It is recommended these funds be dedicated to the following projects (the FY 2006-07 funding requests are in parenthesis):

- **Old Dominion Drive** (\$100,000) – This project would continue the installation of sidewalks, curbs, gutters and bike lanes on Old Dominion Drive from Lee Highway to the Fairfax County line. Design of the project is nearly complete and funding has been secured to complete at least the first two phases of the project. This money would allow the final phases of the project to go to construction.
- **Washington Boulevard Trail Phase II** (\$550,000) – This project is to construct a shared use trail adjacent to Washington Boulevard from Arlington Boulevard to Columbia Pike. Phase I of the project, between Arlington Boulevard and 2nd Street S, is scheduled for construction in the summer of 2007. Phase II, from 2nd Street to Columbia Pike, has been designed, but is not funded for construction at this time. This funding would allow for construction of Phase II to begin; it is likely that the remaining construction funds would be sought in a future-year revenue sharing request.
- **Ballston Streetscape Improvements** (\$550,000) – This project would improve the curb, gutter, bus bays, and sidewalk along the streets surrounding the Ballston Metro station, including Fairfax Dr., Stuart St. and Stafford St. These monies would fund the preliminary engineering (PE) phase of this project. Depending on the outcome of PE, construction funds will likely be sought in future-year revenue sharing requests.
- **Lee Highway at Glebe Road** (\$150,000) – Redevelopment is transforming the intersection of Lee Highway and Glebe Road. 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 the high pedestrian and vehicular traffic, this intersection lacks dedicated left turn lanes. These monies would fund a preliminary engineering study and survey of the intersection. Depending on the outcome of PE, construction funds could be sought in future-year revenue sharing requests.

- **LED Change-Out (60 Intersections)** (\$300,000) - Currently, Arlington County maintains and operates 260 signalized intersections with approximately 5,500 signal heads. Studies conducted by County staff and Federal Highways show that retrofitting the bulbs in traffic signals with LED's 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 LED's. These additional sixty intersections would complete the County's program to change out all incandescent lamps.

- **Arterial Streetlight Underground** (\$100,000) – During the late 1960's and 1970's many of the arterial streetlights installed in Arlington were serviced through underground conduits from the new commercial buildings. Now over thirty years later these building are under redevelopment and many of our power feeds are now destroyed or relocated causing pocket of arterial streetlight failures. Many of these areas are now serviced by underground power supply and overhead power feed to restore lights are not acceptable by the various impacted civic associations. This funding would allow the reconnection of underground conduit repairs and power supply.

- **South Glebe Road at Arlington Ridge Road** (\$200,000) – This project would fund the PE phase of this project to add left-turn lanes at the South Glebe Road and Arlington Ridge Road Intersection. The project is currently in the state's Six-Year Improvement Program, but is funded with federal funding. Due to right-of-way (ROW) issues, federal funding cannot be used to complete this project. Depending on the outcome of PE, construction funds will likely be sought in future-year revenue sharing requests.

- **Five-Points Intersection** – (\$150,000) The Cherrydale Area Plan and the existing redevelopment and future redevelopment of the Five Points area are becoming a major transportation hub for pedestrians, bicyclist 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 ten 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 includes enhancement of the transit element. This money would fund the preliminary engineering of the intersection. Depending on the outcome of PE, construction funds could be sought in future-year revenue sharing requests.

In addition, staff will be requesting that VDOT reallocate last year's Program funding from the Arlington Boulevard – Courthouse Road utility undergrounding project to the Old Dominion Drive project. Utility undergrounding projects are typically matched at a 50-50 ratio by the state; however, when revenue sharing monies are applied, the ratio becomes 25-75. Due to this unfavorable matching ratio, staff has determined that the Old Dominion Drive project would be a better use of the funding. Local bond funds will be used to provide the county's share of the

Arlington Boulevard – Courthouse Road utility undergrounding project, allowing the project to continue to move forward.

Table 1 outlines the project costs and proposed Program allocations.

Table 1: Proposed Revenue Sharing Allocations

	Total Project Cost	FY 05-06 Funding (Matched Amount)	FY 06-07 Funding (Matched Amount)
Old Dominion Drive	\$2,160,000	\$1,617,460	\$100,000
Wash Blvd Trail, Phase II	\$800,000		\$550,000
Ballston Streetscape PE	\$750,000		\$550,000
Lee Hwy @ Glebe Rd	\$2,100,000		\$150,000
LED Change-Out	\$300,000		\$300,000
Arterial Streetlight Underground	\$100,000		\$100,000
S Glebe Rd at Arlington Ridge Rd	\$1,700,000		\$200,000
Five-Points Intersection	\$500,000		\$150,000
Total	\$8,410,000	\$1,617,460	\$2,100,000

FISCAL IMPACT: The County can request up to the maximum amount of \$1,000,000 from the Program. This amount must be matched at least dollar-for-dollar by local funds. However, providing more than \$1,000,000 ensures that the application will be considered “Tier I.” Therefore, the total potential fiscal impact to the locality is \$1,100,000 for the FY 2006-07 application, which will come from local bond funds.

In addition, by reallocating the FY 2005-06 Program funding, this results in a more favorable matching ratio for the Arlington Boulevard – Courthouse Road utility undergrounding project and frees up \$808,730 in state funding for the Old Dominion Drive project. Local bond funds will be used to provide the county’s share of the Arlington Boulevard – Courthouse Road utility undergrounding project, allowing the project to continue to move forward.

The County’s total matching responsibility for all revenue sharing projects is \$1,908,730, plus an estimated cost of \$1,000,000 for the Arlington Boulevard-Courthouse Road utility undergrounding project. State funds will be matched with approved 2006 referenda for Street, Highway and Community Conservation bond funds earmarked for matching. This will leverage \$2,808,730 in state funding.

RESOLUTION ENDORSING REVENUE SHARING APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Arlington County Board desires to submit an application for an allocation of funds of up to \$2,100,000 (\$1,100,000 in local funds and \$1,000,000 in state funds) through the Virginia Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2006-2007, Revenue Sharing Program; and,

WHEREAS, these funds are requested to fund the following projects:

- Old Dominion Drive (\$100,000)
- Washington Boulevard Trail, Phase II (\$550,000)
- Ballston Streetscape Improvements (PE) (\$550,000)
- Lee Highway at Glebe Road (PE) (\$150,000)
- LED Change-Out (60 Intersections) (\$300,000)
- Arterial Streetlight Underground (\$100,000)
- South Glebe Road at Arlington Ridge Road (PE) (\$200,000)
- Five-Point Intersection (\$150,000); and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Arlington County Board hereby supports this application for an allocation of \$2,100,000 through the Virginia Department of Transportation Revenue Sharing Program.

Adopted by the County Board of Arlington County, Virginia on this 9th day of December, 2006.

County Board of Arlington County, Virginia

BY _____
Chair

Attest _____
Clerk to the County Board

December 9, 2007

County Primary and Secondary Road Fund
Revenue Sharing Program
Fiscal Year 2006-07
Arlington County

Mr. Michael A. Estes, P.E.
Local Assistance Division
Virginia Department of Transportation
1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Estes:

The County of Arlington, Virginia indicates by this letter its official intent to participate in Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) County Primary and Secondary Road Fund "Revenue Sharing Program" for Fiscal Year 2006-07. The County will provide \$1,100,000 to be matched from funds of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The County worked with VDOT Northern Virginia Program Managers to identify the following projects as eligible and recommended for this program:

- Old Dominion Drive (\$100,000)
- Washington Boulevard Trail, Phase II (\$550,000)
- Ballston Streetscape Improvements (PE) (\$550,000)
- Lee Highway at Glebe Road (PE) (\$150,000)
- LED Change-Out (60 Intersections) (\$300,000)
- Arterial Streetlight Underground (\$100,000)
- South Glebe Road at Arlington Ridge Road (PE) (\$200,000)
- Five-Point Intersection (\$150,000)

The County understands that the program will be reduced on a pro rata basis if requests exceed available funds.

Sincerely,

Christopher Zimmerman
Chair

Attachments (VDOT Revenue Sharing Form and Resolution regarding Arlington Boulevard Undergrounding Utilities)

cc: Carol Bondurant, VDOT Northern Virginia District
Dennis Leach, Arlington DES Transportation
Mark Kellogg, Arlington DES Transportation
Tamara Ashby, Arlington DES Transportation