



Legislation Text

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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 2, 2019

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER /s/

DOCKET TITLE:

Consideration of a Resolution for a competitive grant application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for Primary Extension Improvement Program Funding. [ROLL-CALL VOTE]

ISSUE: City Council consideration of a resolution for a competitive grant application to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for funding in the amount of \$1 million for the resurfacing of primary route extensions.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Adopt the attached resolution (Attachment 1) to apply for a Primary Extension Improvement Program funding allocation for \$1 million from VDOT for the resurfacing of City-maintained primary route extensions; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to submit this resolution and enter into any agreements with the State that may be required to receive these funds should the requested allocation be approved.

BACKGROUND: Primary Extensions are routes maintained by municipalities that carry a primary route number for continuity. In Alexandria, examples include Duke Street (Route 236) and Van Dorn (Route 401).

Because VDOT estimates that approximately 55% of primary roads in Northern Virginia localities are deficient, the funds have been made available to such routes with a critical condition index (CCI) of less than 60. This VDOT-specific score is consistent with the City's Pavement Condition Index which was developed as part of a citywide survey in 2016 (and will be updated in 2019). The new funding is also intended to supplement (not replace) the current level of funding by localities. No match is required.

Primary Extension Improvement Program funding is intended to provide funds for immediately needed improvements or to supplement funding for existing projects. The maximum award per locality for this

program is \$1 million. Because VDOT expects to receive more applications than available funding, the agency will likely use a formula to determine award amounts resulting in awards of less than \$1 million per applicant. Additionally, VDOT has indicated it plans to rate applications giving the most weight to the CCI of each street followed by traffic volume. Streets currently proposed by the City which meet VDOT requirements are all major arterials/primaries which require significant investment (more than \$100,000 each) to resurface.

In January 2018 Council approved an application for VDOT FY 2019 Primary Extension Improvement Program in the amount of \$1 million for the resurfacing of sections of Duke St. between Somerville St. and Walker St. The grant application was approved by VDOT in July of 2018 and the work was completed in Summer 2018.

Any Primary Extension Improvement Program funding awarded would be in addition to VDOT Revenue Sharing Program funding.

DISCUSSION: In FY18, VDOT completed a pavement management inventory in which a condition assessment was performed on primary extension routes statewide, including those in Alexandria. This system, much like the citywide pavement condition index (PCI) performed by Transportation & Environmental Services in 2016, resulted in a condition index score assigned to each route.

T&ES staff compared the VDOT CCI scores with the City's proposed three-year paving schedule from the FY 2019 through FY 2028 approved Capital Improvement Program which are based on PCI scoring.

The streets eligible for funding through this grant are identified by VDOT and are limited to major arterials that have a low PCI rating. A section of Seminary Road that is on the FY 2019 paving schedule is included in this application. This section of roadway is being evaluated by Complete Streets for improvements and has been put on hold for paving until those improvements are finalized. If approved for VDOT funding, Seminary Road will be eligible for paving in the summer of 2019. Given these VDOT parameters, staff has identified the following streets as candidates for potential VDOT Primary Extension Improvement Program funding:

- Eastbound Seminary Rd from Library Ln. to Quaker Ln.
- Eastbound King St. from Park Center Dr. to the I-395 bridge
- Westbound Duke St. from Roth St. to Diagonal Rd

FISCAL IMPACT: The application reflects a request for \$1million in State revenues to supplement the City's CIP funding for major street resurfacing. The existing FY 2019 through FY 2028 Capital Improvement Program includes a planned amount of \$5,500,000 in FY 2020 which would be dedicated to this project. Receiving any additional VDOT funding would allow the acceleration of other streets within the proposed 3-year paving schedule.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution

STAFF:

Emily A. Baker, Deputy City Manager

Yon Lambert, AICP, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services

Morgan Routt, Budget Director, Office of Management and Budget

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Mary Martin, P.E., Division Chief, Transportation and Environmental Services
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