



# City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
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STREET MAINTENANCE  
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING  
REFUSE/ RECYCLING  
CENTRAL STORES

TO: Kurt Hodgen, City Manager  
FROM: Thomas Hartman, PE, Assistant Director of Public Works  
DATE: July 26, 2016  
RE: Public Works Projects Update

**Summary:** The Public Works Department will provide an update on the FY17 VDOT grants applied for by the City, as well as provide the list of projects currently under consideration for the FY18 VDOT grant cycle.

**Background:** During the FY17 VDOT grant cycle the Public Works Department submitted numerous grant applications for various projects within the City. Below is a summary of the awards:

#### *Revenue Sharing (50/50 Grant)*

- Reservoir Street Reconstruction Project – Received the requested \$1,000,000 in grant funding, which will assist in completing this project.
- Garbers Church Road Shared Use Paths – Received the requested \$1,500,000 in grant funding. PW is currently working to secure the design consultant that will assist with the design of the project.
- Grace Street Extension (JMU Portion) – Received only \$577,000 of the requested \$1,250,000 due to VDOT not fully funding all requests this FY.
- Annual Paving Funds – Did not receive any additional paving funds.

#### *SmartScale, formerly House Bill 2 (100% State and Federal Funds)*

- Exit 245 Off-Ramp Realignment – Received the requested \$3,924,000 to realign the northbound off ramp.
- South Main Street / MLK Jr. Way – Received the requested \$2,791,000 for signal improvements, waterline construction, turn lane improvements and shared use path construction.
- Exit 247 Improvements – Did not receive the requested funds for this project.

#### *Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant (80/20 Grant)*

- Safe Routes to School Spotswood – Received the requested \$190,000 to install sidewalks and crosswalks along Reservoir Street.

These projects represent \$13,059,384 of improvement value, but only require \$3,499,000 in local funds.

For the upcoming FY18 VDOT grant cycle the Public Works Department is currently preparing grant applications for the following projects:

#### *Revenue Sharing (50/50 Grant)*

The City With The Planned Future

- Grace Street Extension (JMU Portion) – This request will be to complete the funding required to fully implement the project that was applied for during FY17. JMU will be providing the required matching funds for this project.

*SmartScale, formerly House Bill 2 (100% State and Federal Funds)*

- Exit 247 Improvements (Bridge and Interchange) – Reconstruction of the two (2) bridge structures over I-81, which will include widening for additional turn lanes, an addition of a northbound off-ramp spur, channelization of the left turn lanes off of East Market onto Linda Lane, and relocation of the northbound on-ramp that will eliminate the cloverleaf configuration. See attached sketch for interchange modification
- Exit 247 Improvements (Interchange only) – This application will only include the interchange modification shown in the application above. This is due to the fact VDOT has requested that the City submit a grant application that includes the I-81 structures, but the Public Works Department feels that the interchange only project would produce a more competitive SmartScale project. Therefore, we are proposing to submit two (2) grant applications.
- Mt Clinton Pike Improvement Project – This is a current revenue sharing project, however, the current funding only provides engineering and some right of way. This grant application will be to fully fund the right of way/utility relocation phase, and construction phase.
- Erickson Avenue Phase 4 – This project is the final phase of the southeast connector within the City, and this grant application will seek funding to complete the engineering and construction phases.

*Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant (80/20 Grant)*

- Federal Street Shared Use Path – This project will include the construction of a shared use path along Federal Street between East Market Street and Elizabeth Street. This project was identified in the Downtown Master Streetscape Plan, and the City is currently working on a partnership with a local developer to assist with the required matching funds.

*Highway Safety Improvement Program (100% State and Federal Funds)*

- Corridor Signal Optimization Study – This grant application will allow the City to perform signal optimization work along the East Market Street, South Main Street, Port Republic Road, and Virginia Ave/High Street corridors. This optimization will allow for more efficient movement of vehicles and pedestrians through those corridors.
- Flashing Yellow Arrow Study and Implementation – This grant application will allow the City to perform a study on all signalized protected and permissive left turns for implementation of Flashing Yellow Arrows (FYA). The grant application will also include funds to install the FYA at the selected intersections.
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements City Wide – This grant application will assist in funding bicycle and pedestrian projects throughout the City. The grant application would be general in nature and Public Works staff plans to utilize the soon to be completed Bike/Ped plan update as a starting point for project identification.

Next steps for the FY18 grant applications are:

- Prepare grant application and cost estimates.
- Request City Council to pass a Resolution for Revenue Sharing grants.
- Request City Council to pass a Resolution of Support for SmartScale grants.
- Request Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to pass a Resolution of Support for SmartScale projects.
- Submit all VDOT grants by the end of September.

**Key Issues:** None.

**The City With The Planned Future**

**Environmental Impact:** None.

**Fiscal Impact:** To be determined.

**Prior Actions:** None.

**Alternatives:** None.

**Community Engagement:** None.

**Recommendation:** None.

**Attachments:** Exit 247 (Bridge and Interchange) Improvements Map.

**Review:**

*The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.*