

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CITY OF HARRISONBURG
RAISE GRANT APPLICATION**

At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Harrisonburg City Council held on Tuesday February 14, 2023, on a motion by Via Mayor Dent, seconded by Council Member Jones the following resolution was adopted by a vote of 5 to 0 :

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) authorized and appropriated funds to be awarded by the United States Department of Transportation for Local and Regional Project Assistance Program Grants, known as the RAISE Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the CITY OF HARRISONBURG CITY COUNCIL desires to submit an application for the allocation of funds for the Downtown Harrisonburg Streetscape and Mobility Transformation Project; and

WHEREAS, the project improves safety for all modes of traffic by reducing speed and conflict points, adding crosswalks, and providing protected space for bicycling, and

WHEREAS, the project makes downtown more environmentally sustainable by supporting non-motorized travel options and adding space for plantings, and

WHEREAS, the project improves the quality of life by making aesthetic improvements to the downtown, and providing a safe space for active transportation, suitable for cyclists of all ages and abilities to travel by modes that are also good for health and wellness, and

WHEREAS, the project is part of a citywide north/south shared use path vision, which will connect the existing Bluestone Trail to downtown, and extends the path northward toward the Northend Greenway, making travel by bicycle an attractive option to access goods, services, entertainment, recreation, and nature between downtown, Purcell Park, and neighborhoods, including both the JMU and EMU campuses, and

WHEREAS, the project improves economic competitiveness and opportunity by moving utility lines underground, removing a primary encumbrance to development along the corridor, and improving accessibility to businesses, and

WHEREAS, the project contributes to the downtown infrastructure's state of good repair by protecting utilities underground that are frequently damaged by vehicle crashes and weather events, and by replacing multiple traffic signals and street lights, bring them up to present day standards and into uniformity with other areas of downtown, and

WHEREAS, the project is supported by a robust partnership and extensive collaboration between the Harrisonburg Department of Public Works, Fire Department, Police Department, Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance, Harrisonburg Electric Commission, and the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, and multiple Council-appointed committees and commissions, to ensure the appropriate design and operation of the bicycle track and streetscape improvements from all perspectives, and

WHEREAS, the project demonstrates innovation by debuting in-street protected bicycle infrastructure and bicycle-dedicated signalization in the Shenandoah Valley

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The HARRISONBURG CITY COUNCIL hereby supports this application for the RAISE Grant Program.

ADOPTED this 14th day of February, 2023.


Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST:



Pam Ulmer, City Clerk