

STAFF REPORT

May 12, 2022 TTC Meeting

SUBJ: Consideration of Additional Allocation of FY 2023-2024 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Funds

At the February 24, 2022 RVTPO Policy Board meeting, \$715,036 in Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) funding was allocated to two projects:

1. City of Roanoke - Williamson Road Pedestrian Improvements, \$460,000; and
2. Roanoke County – Glade Creek Greenway Vinyard Park West, \$255,036.

At the April 14 TTC meeting, staff informed Committee members of the availability of additional TA funds in the amount of \$163,105. Because there were no other applications for the Policy Board to fund during the FY23-24 round, these funds are available for cost overruns on existing projects or saving for future project applications. Staff has received two requests from project sponsors with existing projects seeking these additional funds to address cost overruns.

Locality	Project	RVTP Project Cost Estimate	Updated Cost Estimate	Previous TPO TA Allocations	% Cost Increase	Additional Funding Request
Vinton	Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B	\$476,000	\$784,659	\$380,800	65%	\$162,000
Roanoke County	Roanoke River Greenway, Parkway Crossing	\$708,258	\$795,900	\$200,000	12%	\$87,642
TOTAL REQUESTED						\$249,642

Vinton's overrun projection is being based upon a VDOT estimate for \$784,659. As of April 28th, a permit from VA Marine Resources Commission has been obtained for the project. The permit will be valid through April 30, 2025 with an in-stream work restriction from March 15 through June 30. The town is hopeful of advertising as early as December 2022 but no later than Spring 2023 for the project. As of May 5th, the Norfolk Southern (NS) right-of-way agent has accepted the Town's offer on the use of the NS right-of-way for the overhead fall protection shelter and the greenway construction. A meeting with VDOT Salem District personnel and Town's consultant has been scheduled on Tuesday, May 10th to discuss the 90% design plans.

Roanoke County's engineering consultant has completed the 100% design plans and the bid documentation for the project and an environmental permit that expired is being updated. It is anticipated that the project will be advertised for construction in the fall of 2022.

Upon consideration of the requests, staff recommends the following funding scenario for consideration:

Locality	Project	Staff Recommended Funding Scenario
Vinton	Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B	\$75,463
Roanoke County	Roanoke River Greenway, Parkway Crossing	\$87,642
TOTAL		\$163,105

This scenario fully funds the Roanoke River Greenway project's cost overrun, instead of than splitting the additional funds in half (\$81,552.50). Given the current progress of both requests, staff believes that the Roanoke River Greenway, Parkway Crossing project is closer to advertisement, hence the recommendation to fully fund the cost overrun.

The revised estimated costs for both projects constitute a major change in the project cost, which therefore triggers an amendment to the RVTPO's Transportation Plan. The table below shows the current estimated project costs of the two subject projects and the left column refers its history of past amendments in the plan.

#	UPC	Jurisdiction	Project Title	Project Limits	Project Description	Est. Cost in Year of Expenditure
59 and A2-37	109611	Town of Vinton	Glade Creek Greenway, Phase 2B	Gearhart Park to Walnut Avenue	Paved 10' wide greenway from Gearhart Park to Walnut Avenue.	\$476,000
A1-7 and A2-23 and A4-10	113356	Roanoke County	Roanoke River Greenway – Blue Ridge Parkway Crossing along Highland Road	Blue Ridge Parkway and Highland Road	Construction of 0.30 miles of Roanoke River Greenway underneath the Blue Ridge Parkway, connecting bicyclists and pedestrians safely to other funded sections of the Roanoke River Greenway.	\$708,258

The proposed amendment to the current transportation plan would confirm the Board's agreement with pursuit of these projects given the increase in estimated costs.

Staff submits the above as an amendment to the Plan for consideration by the TTC and recommendation to the RVTPO Policy Board for approval. As such, the schedule for consideration of this Amendment #5 to the Plan is the following:

Action	Date/Meeting
TTC consideration of Draft CLRMTP Amendment #5	May 12 TTC Meeting
RVTPO Policy Board first reading of Draft CLRMTP Amendment #5	May 26 RVTPO Meeting
Begin 14-Day public comment period for Draft CLRMTP Amendment #5	June 2
End 14-Day public comment period for Draft CLRMTP Amendment #5	June 15
RVTPO Public Hearing and consideration of Draft CLRMTP Amendment #5	June 23

TTC Actions:

1. Recommend action to the RVTPO Policy Board on amending the RVTPO's Transportation Plan to reflect the updated project cost estimate for the projects noted above.
2. Recommendation of additional allocation of Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Block Grant Program funding to the RVTPO Policy Board.