

RESOLUTION TITLE: RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT TWO COUNTY PROPOSED PROJECTS THROUGH THE FEDERAL CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM. THE PROJECTS ARE: LOWELL MAIN STREET-LOWELL SPENCER MOUNTAIN SIDEWALK CONNECTION TO POSTON PARK AND RANKIN LAKE TO GASTONIA TECH PARK TRAIL

- WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration's CMAQ improvement grant program provides funding to select local governments in air quality non-attainment and maintenance areas in North Carolina to undertake projects that reduce emissions from on-road motorized vehicles; and,
- WHEREAS, CMAQ funds are distributed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation to the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for use by its eligible members; and,
- WHEREAS, Gaston County currently has two project applications (2) being Lowell Main Street-Lowell Spencer Mountain Sidewalk Connection to Poston Park Entrance (on road); and Rankin Lake to Gastonia Tech Park Trail (off-road); and,
- WHEREAS, the cost estimate for the Lowell Main Street-Lowell Spencer Mountain project to construct a sidewalk to the Poston Park Entrance is \$417,974 with the County committing local funds match of 20% or \$83,595 and CMAQ funding of 80% or \$334,379; and,
- WHEREAS, the cost estimate for Rankin Lake Park to Gastonia Tech park to construct a Nature Trail is \$946,847 with the County committing local funds match of 20% or \$189,369 and CMAQ funding of 80% or \$747,478; and;
- WHEREAS, Gaston County acknowledges that any costs in excess of those paid for through the CMAQ grants are the responsibility of the County and that implementation of the projects if awarded CMAQ grants is the responsibility of the County.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gaston County Board of Commission that Gaston County reaffirms the Transportation Project Applications to the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and authorizes staff to provide necessary documentation in support of the grant applications.

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Gaston County

Public Works

Board Action

File #: 17-085

Commissioner Philbeck - Public Works - To Reaffirm Support to the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO for the Lowell-Main Street/Lowell Spencer Mountain. Sidewalk Connection to Poston Park and the Rankin Lake to Gastonia Tech Park Trail and, to Authorize Staff to Provide Supporting Documentation as Necessary for the Final Grant Review Process

STAFF CONTACT

Ray Maxwell, PE - Public Works - 704-862-7551

BUDGET IMPACT

Poston Sidewalk: Federal/State Funding \$354,379 Local Match \$83,595

Rankin Lake to Gastonia Tech Park: Federal/State Funding \$757,478 Local Match \$189,369

BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

BACKGROUND

The Gaston County Public Works and Parks and Recreation offices have been working together to develop and submit three (3) applications for grant funding through the Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. One of the projects (Dallas Park to Gaston College to Gastonia Technology Parkway Trail) was funded recently by NCDOT and accepted via Board Actions 2016-027 and 2015-262. Authorization to submit all three applications was granted previously via Board Actions 2011-319 and 2015-035.

Recently, Gaston County was notified by the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that the CMAQ subcommittee had recommended funding both remaining projects to the MPO Board. As a result, the MPO has requested that Gaston County formally reaffirm support for both the Lowell-Main Street/Lowell Spencer Mtn. Sidewalk Connection to Poston Park and the Rankin Lake to Gastonia Technology Park Trail projects. Approval of this Board Action does not commit the County Commission to funding at this time. Should one or both projects be approved for funding by NCDOT, a subsequent Board Action will be brought to the Commission for final acceptance of grant funds.

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Authorization of this Board Action and attached resolution formally endorses the Lowell-Main Street/Lowell Spencer Mtn. Sidewalk Connection to Poston Park and the Rankin Lake to Gastonia Technology Park Trail and authorizes staff to provide supporting documentation and additional information as requested by the MPO to assist with the final grant funding decisions.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution Reaffirming Support of Projects