



## CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

### City Council Agenda Communication

**Meeting Date:** April 6, 2020

**Prepared By:** Jon Oliphant, AICP, Planning & Development Director

**Agenda Item:** Resolution – STBG Freedom Parkway Project Local Cost Share Commitment

**Explanation:** The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) recently announced a call for projects for the FY 2023-24 cycle of the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program, formerly named Surface Transportation – Urban (STU). This is for new construction/reconstruction projects. A pilot program initiated with the FY 2020-22 cycle that allocates 20% of the region's federal funds for resurfacing/maintenance projects will continue for this funding round, though those applications will have a separate call for projects later in 2020. STBG projects are funded on a 70/30 basis. Applications are due to TCRPC by April 10. All applicants must submit an approved resolution by April 30 signifying its commitment to the 30% local cost share. Approximately \$6.2 million is available for eligible construction/reconstruction projects over the two funding years. Engineering and right-of-way acquisition are not eligible for STBG assistance. A Peoria-Pekin Urbanized Area Transportation Study subcommittee will review the applications in May to assign Regional Significance scores prior to making a recommendation to the Technical Committee, which then makes a recommendation to the Policy Committee and a final decision on awards to be made in July.

Staff has previously submitted three STU applications for the completion of Freedom Parkway. The last submittal included the construction of a portion of Lakeshore Drive from north of its terminus at Business Route 24. This application will not include any part of Lakeshore. Based on feedback at the March Committee of the Whole meeting, staff plans to submit an application for funding for the FY 23-24 cycle for much of the remaining construction with the exception of roughly the eastern 30% of the road, which could be expedited solely using local funds upon the finish of Phase I and II engineering. The current City FY 19-20 budget has \$1 million included for construction for Freedom/Lakeshore and the desire would be to carry those funds into FY 21-22 for the eastern section of Freedom (approximately 1,000 lf) as early as late 2021.

Shortly after the start of the Phase I engineering, staff asked the consulting engineer, Terra, for a revised cost estimate for Freedom Parkway to ensure it could be as accurate as possible for the STBG submittal. The remaining approximately 2,500 lf of the road carries a tentative cost estimate of about \$3.369 million. Staff's desire is to have a higher estimate based on 2023-24 dollars, as the City would be responsible for any cost overruns beyond what it could be given through an STBG award. This also includes some design elements that allow for more points to be allocated in the self-scoring portion of the application. That estimate will be utilized for the application. As a result, STBG would cover about \$2.358 million and the City would be responsible for approximately \$1.011 million.

**Fiscal Impact:** There would be no change to what is tentatively budgeted for FY 20-21 for the completion of Phase I engineering and the start of Phase II. With a slightly higher construction cost estimate at this early point in the Phase I work, it would be prudent to slightly increase the FY 21-22 budget to account for a slightly higher anticipated cost in the Phase II engineering. The Capital Improvement Program will reflect the STBG/Local split in either FY 22-23 or 23-24 depending on which of the two STBG funding years this project may be awarded.

#### **Recommendation/**

**Committee Discussion Summary:** Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution as a requirement for the STBG application project submittal. This project has previously been discussed multiple times and is one of the Council's top goals.

**Action Requested:** Approval of the attached resolution.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

(Synopsis: Approval of this resolution would pledge the City's commitment for a 30% local cost share and support a Surface Transportation Block Grant request to construct a portion of the remainder of Freedom Parkway.)

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT REQUEST TO CONSTRUCT  
A PORTION OF FREEDOM PARKWAY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington proposes to apply for Surface Transportation Block Grant assistance from the Peoria-Pekin Urbanized Area Transportation Study's (PPUATS) Traditional Program through the Federal Highway Administration for the purpose of constructing the remainder of Freedom Parkway, which amounts to approximately 2,500 lineal feet; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington has the funds and pledges to pay \$1,010,687, which is the required 30% local match, for the project in 2023 or 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the completion of Freedom Parkway is among the City of Washington's top infrastructure priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington has previously budgeted the funds to complete approximately 1,000 lineal feet of Freedom Parkway in 2021 to connect with North Cummings Lane; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington has the financial capability to operate, maintain, and manage the completed project in a safe and attractive manner for the public's use; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington desires to provide a safe transportation system for vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycling traffic and this project would also extend the Washington Recreation Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the health and safety of the City's residents and visitors is of the highest concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington, is a long-standing dues-paying member of PPUATS and is eligible to apply for this funding; and

**WHEREAS**, much of the anticipated right-of-way has been dedicated to construct the remainder of the road and water and sewer mains have previously been constructed within the right-of-way; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washington has determined that the pursuit of a Surface Transportation Block Grant will help meet these objectives.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS**, as follows:

That the City supports the grant request to construct approximately 2,500 lineal feet of Freedom Parkway from its current western terminus to a point approximately 1,000 feet west of North Cummings Lane.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.**

**AYES** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAYS** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk