



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

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Agenda item # 6

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

March 21, 2018

MOTION

Made By: Ms. Hynes, Seconded By: Mr. Kasprovicz
Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: SMART SCALE Project Scope Change Request for Sudley Road Northbound Widening Project in the City of Manassas (UPC 109293)

WHEREAS, section 33.2-214.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, provides that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board) shall develop a statewide prioritization process for certain projects funded by the Board, including those projects allocated funds pursuant to sections 33.2-358, 33.2-370 and 33.2-371 of the *Code of Virginia*, and

WHEREAS on June 17, 2015 the Board adopted a statewide prioritization policy and process pursuant to Section 33.2-214.1 and directed the Commissioner of Highways, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) and the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) to take all actions necessary to implement and administer the policy and process adopted on June 17, 2015 (collectively the HB2 Prioritization Policy and Process), including but not limited to issuance of a Policy Guide consistent with the intent of the policy and process; and

WHEREAS on July 28, 2016, the Board rescinded the HB2 Prioritization Policy and Process previously adopted on June 17, 2015 and adopted a revised policy and process to govern screening, scoring and selecting projects for funding pursuant to Section 33.2-214.1 (SMART SCALE Prioritization Process); and

WHEREAS on October 24, 2017, the Board rescinded the SMART SCALE Prioritization Process previously adopted on July 28, 2016 and adopted a revised SMART SCALE Prioritization Process to govern screening, scoring and selecting projects for funding pursuant to Section 33.2-214.1; and

WHEREAS a revised Policy Guide consistent with the SMART SCALE Prioritization Process was issued and posted at SmartScale.org; and

WHEREAS Item 10 of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process states that a project that has been selected for funding must be re-scored and the funding decision re-evaluated if there are significant changes to either the scope or cost of the project, such that the anticipated benefits relative to funding requested would have substantially changed; and

WHEREAS Item 10.c of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process further clarifies that if the project scope is increased then the applicant is responsible for the additional cost attributable to the increase in scope regardless of budget impact; and

WHEREAS the Sudley Road Northbound Widening Project (UPC 109293), (Project), was submitted for consideration and selected for \$7.4 million in funding through the District Grant Program in the first round of the prioritization process, which fully funded the total project cost; and

WHEREAS the City of Manassas has subsequently reevaluated the project and recommended a revised scope that eliminates the proposed undergrounding of utilities and applies the associated cost savings to scope changes that provide a greater transportation benefit by extending the length of the proposed third lane, providing more throughput, and lessening congestion without increasing the project cost (Re-scoped Project); and

WHEREAS the City of Manassas has completed the public involvement process and all resulting comments have been addressed, as needed; and

WHEREAS the City of Manassas agrees that the City will be responsible for any cost increase above the \$7.4 million in District Grant Program funds currently allocated to the project and that it will not, for any reason, request additional funding from the Commonwealth for this Re-scoped Project; and

WHEREAS the recommended revised scope has been qualitatively reviewed and no negative impact to project benefits is anticipated and thus OIPI has determined that the Re-scoped Project need not be rescored; and

WHEREAS the application timeframe for Round 1 was compressed and the process was new, which resulted in some projects being submitted, and subsequently selected for funding, that may not have undergone the rigorous planning and validation process now required to determine that projects are ready for consideration through SMART SCALE; and

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WHEREAS the issue with regard to this Project's scope (the utility undergrounding) can be and has been addressed by the modifications presented herein such that the Re-scoped Project would still have been selected for funding if submitted at the time of original application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, that the Re-scoped Project for the Sudley Road Northbound Widening and continued allocation/use of currently programmed District Grant Program funds for said Project as described in Attachment A is approved.

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CTB Decision Brief

SMART SCALE Project Scope Change Request for Sudley Road Northbound Widening Project in the City of Manassas (UPC 109293)

Issue: The Sudley Road Northbound Widening Project (Project) was selected for funding under the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (Board) SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy/Process and, since selection; the City of Manassas has recommended/requested a change in project scope (Re-scoped Project). Item 10 of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy/Process, adopted October 24, 2017, provides that a project that has been selected for funding must be re-scored and the funding decision reevaluated if there are significant changes to either the scope or cost of the project, such that the anticipated benefits relative to funding requested would have substantially changed. Item 10.c of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process states that if a project scope is increased then the applicant is responsible for the additional cost attributable to the increase in scope regardless of budget impact. Board approval of continued funding for the Re-scoped Project is required.

Facts:

The Sudley Road Northbound Widening Project in the City of Manassas (UPC 109293), was submitted for consideration and selected for \$7.4 million in funding through the District Grant Program in the first round of the prioritization process pursuant to §33.2-214.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, which fully funded the total Project cost.

The City of Manassas has subsequently reevaluated the Project and recommended a revised scope that eliminates the proposed undergrounding of utilities and applies the associated cost savings to scope changes that provide a greater transportation benefit by extending the length of the proposed third lane, providing more throughput, and lessening congestion without increasing the Project cost.

The City of Manassas has completed the public involvement process and all resulting comments have been addressed.

The recommended revised scope has been qualitatively reviewed and no negative impact to project benefits is anticipated and thus the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment is recommending that the Re-scoped Project need not be rescored.

The City of Manassas agrees that the City will be responsible for any cost increase above the \$7.4 million in District Grant Program funds currently allocated to the project and that it will not, for any reason, request from the Commonwealth, additional funding for this Re-scoped Project.

It is noted that the application timeframe for Round 1 was compressed and the process was new, which resulted in some projects being submitted, and subsequently selected for funding, that may not have undergone the rigorous planning and validation process now required to determine that projects are ready for consideration through SMART SCALE. However, the issue with regard to this Project scope (the utility undergrounding) can be and has been addressed by the

CTB Decision Brief

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modifications presented herein such that the Re-scoped Project would still have been selected for funding if submitted at the time of original application.

Recommendations: Approval of the Re-scoped Project and use of currently programmed District Grant Program funds by the Commonwealth Transportation Board is recommended.

Action Required by CTB: The CTB will be presented with a resolution for a formal vote to approve the Re-scoped Project and the continued allocation/use of currently programmed District Grant Program funds for said Project.

Result, if Approved: If the resolution is approved, the City of Manassas will be permitted to change the project scope and use currently programmed District Grant Program funds to support the Re-scoped Project.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: None