



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Shannon Valentine
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 786-2701
Fax: (804) 786-2940

Agenda item # 9

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

March 17, 2020

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Williams, Seconded By: Mr. Miller
Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: SMART SCALE Project Budget Increase for Safety Improvements to Route 122 at Route 636 Intersection UPC 109287 in Franklin County

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 February 19, 2020, the Board 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, Item 12 of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process provides 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 12.a. of the Board’s SMART SCALE Prioritization Process further provides that if an estimate increases prior to project advertisement or contract award that exceeds the following thresholds, and the applicant is not covering the increased cost with other funds, Board action is required to approve the budget increase:

- i. Total Cost Estimate <\$5 million: 20% increase in funding requested
- ii. Total Cost Estimate \$5 million to \$10 million: \$1 million or greater increase in funding requested
- iii. Total Cost Estimate > \$10 million: 10% increase in funding requested; \$5 million maximum increase in funding requested; and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2016, the Board adopted the Six-Year Improvement Program Development Policy that states that any project added to the SYIP with funding from the State of Good Repair Program, High Priority Projects Program, or Construction District Grants Program shall be fully funded; and

WHEREAS, section 33.2-214 of the *Code of Virginia*, provides that “the Board shall only include a project or program wholly or partially funded with funds from the State of Good Repair Program pursuant to § 33.2-369, the High Priority Projects Program pursuant to § 33.2-370, or the Highway Construction District Grant Programs pursuant to § 33.2-371 in the Six-Year Improvement Program if the allocation of funds from those programs and other funding committed to such project or program within the six-year horizon of the Six-Year Improvement Program is sufficient to complete the project or program”; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Improvements to Route 122 at Route 636 Intersection UPC 109287 Project (the Project) was submitted for consideration and selected for \$2.7 million in funding through the Construction District Grant Program in the first round of the prioritization process pursuant to section 33.2-214.1; and

WHEREAS, the Project was ranked 9 out of 20 projects selected in Round 1 in the Salem District with a score of 9.5; and

WHEREAS, the Project is in the right of way phase, however there has been a change in the predominant crash pattern and an increase in severe injury and fatal crashes such that a refinement to the project design is warranted; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends a roundabout design as it provides improved safety performance; and

WHEREAS, a Citizens Information Meeting (CIM) was held on January 23, 2020 and the majority of comments from the CIM were positive towards the roundabout; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of Supervisors expressed support for the proposed design refinement in December and officially endorsed the roundabout at their February 18, 2020 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the benefits associated with the revised design are estimated to be greater than the benefits associated with the original design and

WHEREAS, the Project is in the right of way phase and the estimated cost of the revised roundabout design exceeds the approved budget of \$2.7 million by approximately \$1.6 million; and

WHEREAS, VDOT recommends Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase in the amount of up to \$1.6 million using surplus and unallocated Construction District Grant funds in the Salem District (UPC -21767 and UPC -15990).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, that the SMART SCALE budget increase of up to \$1.6 million for the Project, using surplus and unallocated Construction District Grant funds in the Salem District (UPC -21767 and UPC -15990), is approved.

###

CTB Decision Brief

SMART SCALE Project Budget Increase for Safety Improvements to Route 122 at Route 636 Intersection UPC 109287 in Franklin County

Issue: The Safety Improvements to Route 122 at Route 636 Intersection UPC 109287 (the Project) was selected for funding under the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (Board) SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy/Process and the current estimated cost for completion of the Project exceeds the approved budget by approximately \$1.6 million. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) recommends Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase in the amount of up to \$1.6 million using unallocated and surplus Construction District Grant funds in the Salem District from UPC -21767 and UPC -15990. Board approval of the budget increase is required.

Facts: Item 12 of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Policy/Process, adopted February 19, 2020, 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 12.a. of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process states that if an estimate increases prior to project advertisement or contract award that exceeds the following thresholds, and the applicant is not covering the increased cost with other funds, Board action is required to approve the budget increase:

- i. Total Cost Estimate <\$5 million: 20% increase in funding requested
- ii. Total Cost Estimate \$5 million to \$10 million: \$1 million or greater increase in funding requested
- iii. Total Cost Estimate > \$10 million: 10% increase in funding requested; \$5 million maximum increase in funding requested

The Safety Improvements to Route 122 at Route 636 Intersection UPC 109287 (Project) was submitted for consideration and selected for \$2.7 million in funding through the Construction District Grant Program. The Project was ranked 9 out of 20 projects selected for funding in Round 1 in the Salem District with a score of 9.5.

The Project is currently in the right of way phase. However, since selection, the predominant crash pattern changed and there was an increase in severe injury and fatal crashes such that a refinement in the project design is warranted. VDOT identified design refinements to address the crash problem and evaluated a traffic signal and a roundabout to reduce angle crashes. The roundabout design is recommended as it provides improved safety performance. A Citizens Information Meeting (CIM) was held on January 23, 2020 and the majority of comments from the CIM were positive towards the roundabout. The Franklin County Board of Supervisors expressed support for the proposed design refinement in December and officially endorsed the roundabout at their February 18, 2020 meeting. The benefits associated with the revised design are estimated to be greater than the benefits associated with the original design. The cost of the revised design exceeds the approved budget by approximately \$1.6 million.

VDOT recommends Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase to support the revised roundabout design in the amount of up to \$1.6 million using unallocated and surplus Construction District Grant Projects in the Salem District (UPC -21767 and UPC -15990).

Recommendation: Approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase in the amount of up to \$1.6 million using unallocated and surplus Construction District Grant funds (UPC -21767 and UPC -15990) in the Salem District.

Action Required by CTB: The CTB will be presented with a resolution for a formal vote to approve the SMART SCALE budget increase.

Result, if Approved: If approved, funds will be transferred so that the project can advance.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: None



RESOLUTION #02-04-2020
SUPPORT BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
THE COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, VIRGINIA
UPC# 109287

WHEREAS, the County of Franklin, Virginia (the "County") is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia exercising public and essential governmental functions pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the County applied for a Smart Scale project for safety improvements at the intersection of Route 122 (Booker T. Washington Highway) and Route 636 (Hardy Road), Gills Creek District, in the Fall of 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved said project in June of 2016; and

WHEREAS, the predominant crash pattern for this intersection was rear-end crashes on Route 122; therefore, the project included constructing a left turn lane on Northbound on Route 122 to reduce rear-end crashes; and

WHEREAS, the project was developed and scheduled to be advertised in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, during the development of the project, the predominant crash pattern changed from rear-end crashes to angle crashes; and

WHEREAS, angle crashes increased for vehicles turning from Hardy Road (Route 636), severe injury crashes increased, and fatal crashes increased; and

WHEREAS, in response to these changes, VDOT re-evaluated the planned improvements considering a traffic signal and a roundabout to reduce angle crashes; and

WHEREAS, a roundabout was recommended due to better safety performance at comparable cost; and

WHEREAS, a Citizens Information Meeting was held in January of 2020 at the Burnt Chimney Elementary School for comments on the project; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the comments received supported the roundabout; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Franklin County Virginia, support the recommendation of VDOT (Virginia Department of Transportation) by Resolution of Support for the roundabout at the intersection of Route 122 (Booker T. Washington Highway) and Route 636 (Hardy Road);

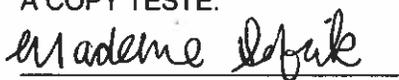
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Franklin, Virginia hereby support VDOT refining the design of the SMART Scale project to a roundabout design.

Adopted this, the 18th day of February 2020, in the County of Franklin, Virginia

On motion of Supervisor to adopt the resolution, seconded by Supervisor, the motion carried by the following recorded vote:

MOTION BY: Lorie Smith
SECONDED BY: Mike Carter
VOTING ON THE MOTION WAS AS FOLLOWS:
AYES: Carter, Cundiff, R. Mitchell, L. Mitchell, Smith, Tatum
ABSENT: Thompson

A COPY TESTE:


Madeline Sefcik, Clerk

