



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item Meeting of September 23, 2023

DATE: August 23, 2023

SUBJECT: Approval to Submit Applications to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 – FY 2028 Revenue Sharing Program

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution authorizing Arlington County's participation in VDOT's FY 2027 – FY 2028 Revenue Sharing Program.

ISSUES: There are no known issues at the time of this report.

SUMMARY: The attached resolution (Attachment A) authorizes and directs that grant applications be submitted to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the FY 2027 – FY 2028 Revenue Sharing Program for up to \$8,379,000.

BACKGROUND: The Revenue Sharing program is administered by VDOT on a biennial basis and is intended to provide state funding for local governments to construct, maintain, or improve primary and secondary roads, including sidewalks, signals, trails, and bridges. Localities that participate in the program must provide a dollar-for-dollar local match for money received through the program.

DISCUSSION: The VDOT Revenue Sharing Program provides dollar-for-dollar state funding to qualifying local capital and maintenance transportation projects, which can be used to leverage existing County funds. A 50 percent local match is required. Projects for the FY 2027 - FY 2028 program will be selected based on the following criteria outlined in the state code:

1. Priority shall be given to projects that have previously received Revenue Sharing funds.
2. Second priority shall be given to projects that (i) meet a transportation need identified in the Statewide Transportation Plan or (ii) accelerate a project in a locality's capital plan.
3. Third priority shall be given to projects that address deficient pavement resurfacing and bridge rehabilitation projects.
4. Other eligible projects not meeting the above criteria will then be considered.

County Manager:

County Attorney:

Staff: Dan Malouff, DES

Based on funding availability and allocations in past rounds, funding is typically only allocated to the first two priority categories listed above, with the first priority typically well-funded, and the second priority usually receiving only partial allocations. The third and fourth priorities are rarely funded, and not at high or predictable levels.

Localities are limited to receiving a total \$5 million per fiscal year (\$10 million per bi-annual cycle), and an individual project may not receive more than \$10 million in Revenue Sharing funding over the life of that project. VDOT requires localities submitting more than one project to prioritize them. Staff identifies candidate projects and priority ranking for the program based on need, match availability, and provisions outlined in the state code and Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) policy for allocating Revenue Sharing funds.

Applications for this cycle are due on October 2, 2023. Staff recommends applying to the program for up to \$8,379,000 for three projects, in the following priority order:

1. Fort Myer Drive Two-Way Conversion, \$1,879,000

Reconstruct Fort Myer Drive in Rosslyn to convert it to two-way operation, bring it to grade, eliminate the tunnel under Wilson Boulevard, and improve multimodal circulation. Arlington requested \$10,000,000 in Revenue Sharing funds (the maximum allowed over the lifetime of any individual project) during the previous application cycle and was awarded \$8,121,000 for FY 2023. This request of \$1,879,000 would maximize possible Revenue Sharing funding on the project at \$10 million. The estimated project cost in the County's adopted FY 2023 – FY 2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is approximately \$42 million, with non-Revenue Sharing funding provided by a combination of developer contributions and the Transportation Capital Fund (TCF). As a previously awarded Revenue Sharing project, this project qualifies to VDOT as a Priority 1 request.

2. North Sycamore Street Improvements, Up to \$2,500,000

Improve sidewalks, crossings, and bicycle facilities on North Sycamore Street adjacent to the East Falls Church Metrorail station. Arlington received a total of \$250,000 in FY 2019 and FY 2020 for this project during a previous Revenue Sharing application cycle, but the project remains underfunded. The County is developing a final concept design based on data analysis, coordination with VDOT, and community feedback. Staff is refining the project cost estimate as part of this process and is requesting approval to submit an application up to \$2,500,000 in Revenue Sharing, which would complete funding through construction. As a previously awarded Revenue Sharing project, this project qualifies to VDOT as a Priority 1 request.

3. Arlington Boulevard Trail South Side: George Mason Drive to Glebe Road
Up to \$4,000,000

Install a multi-use trail with buffer protection from general purpose traffic on the south side of Arlington Boulevard from South George Mason Drive to South Glebe Road, adjacent to the Army National Guard Arlington Hall facility and the National Foreign Affairs Training Center (NFATC). A plan level concept was developed for this portion of the trail as part of the [Arlington Boulevard Trail Study](#). Staff developed a preliminary cost estimate based on this concept and recommend submitting a request for up to \$4,000,000 in Revenue Sharing funds to design and construct the trail improvement. This project has not received Revenue Sharing funds, but since it advances a study included in Arlington's Capital Improvement Program, it would qualify as a Priority 2 request.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Level of Engagement: Communicate.

Outreach Methods: Candidate projects are selected based on reviewed program eligibility requirements and project evaluation criteria as well as major County, State and regional transportation plans. The resulting list of projects is reviewed for each biennial funding cycle by the Transportation Commission.

The Fort Myer Drive project is part of the preferred alternative for the Core of Rosslyn Transportation Study that was concluded in Fall 2019 and was subject to additional public engagement as part of that study. The County Board endorsed it for submission to the Revenue Sharing program previously at its [September 18, 2021](#) meeting, and it is included in the FY 2023 – FY 2032 CIP.

The North Sycamore Street project hosted public engagement opportunities in November of 2021 and November of 2022 to solicit community feedback on existing conditions of the street as well as the first concept design. The project team will be preparing a presentation showing the final concept in fall 2023. The County Board endorsed it for submission to the Revenue Sharing program previously at its [October 21, 2017](#) meeting, and it is included in the FY 2023 – FY 2032 CIP.

The Arlington Boulevard Trail Study recently concluded after three rounds of public engagement. The first occurred in summer of 2022 and included a virtual kick-off meeting, walking tour, and involved the community by soliciting feedback through an online form. The second occurred in fall of 2022 and included a virtual public meeting, online feedback form, and a community pop-up event. The third addressed concerns from the previous engagement and communicated the final recommendations of the study to the public. The segment of the trail included in this request was identified as a key missing link in the study.

Community Feedback: The Transportation Commission reviewed this item at their regular meeting on September 7, 2023 and **HOLD FOR RESULTS OF TC ACTION.**

FISCAL IMPACT: The Revenue Sharing program requires a 50% match, meaning every dollar awarded must be matched on a one-to-one basis. The FY 2023 – FY 2032 CIP includes the required match funding for two of the projects: Fort Myer Drive Two-Way Conversion (TCF-C&I and developer contributions) and North Sycamore Street Improvements (TCF-NVTA Local). The Arlington Boulevard Trail South Side is a project stemming from the recently completed Arlington Boulevard Trail Study, which was included in the FY 2023 – FY 2032 CIP. It is anticipated the project will be included in the draft FY 2025 – FY 2034 CIP with the required local match identified.

Attachment A

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY 2027 – FY 2028 REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the County Board of Arlington County, Virginia (“County Board”) desires to submit applications to the Virginia Department of Transportation for an allocation of up to \$8,379,000 in Fiscal Year 2027 – FY 2028 Revenue Sharing Program funding; and

WHEREAS, \$1,879,000 these funds will be requested for the Fort Myer Drive Two-Way Conversion; and

WHEREAS, up to \$2,500,000 of these funds will be requested for the North Sycamore Street Improvements project; and

WHEREAS, up to \$4,000,000 of these funds will be requested for the Arlington Boulevard Trail South Side: George Mason Drive to Glebe Road project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County Board hereby supports the making of applications and authorizes and directs the County Manager to make applications to the Virginia Department of Transportation for up to \$8,379,000 in Fiscal Year 2027 – FY 2028 Revenue Sharing Program funding for the above described and prioritized projects.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of September, 2023.