SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.          SUBJECT:    PennDOT Grant Reimbursement

COMMITTEE:       New Business

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE:  June 13, 2007

BOARD ACTION DATE:   June 13, 2007

PROPOSAL:         That the Board authorizes the execution of one or more funding agreements with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation under which DRPA would study, design and improve the Benjamin Franklin Bridge west side traffic congestion and be reimbursed by PennDOT for the work performed.

PURPOSE:          To secure federal funding provided by the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") and administered by PennDOT in support of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge Philadelphia Operational Improvements Project.

BACKGROUND:       The Authority is the owner and operator of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge ("BFB") and its ancillary roadway approaches connecting the City of Philadelphia and the City of Camden. PennDOT has jurisdiction over Interstate 676 which interchanges with the access roadways to the BFB. The City of Philadelphia also owns and controls certain City streets in the vicinity of the BFB. PennDOT, DRPA, and the City seek to relieve the existing traffic congestion on the west side of the BFB and the parties have agreed to permit DRPA to be the lead agency to examine existing conditions and design a solution. DRPA will assist in the implementation of improvements to relieve the traffic congestion once the study is complete. The study, design, and construction of the BFB west side improvements are collectively hereinafter referred to as the "Benjamin Franklin Bridge Philadelphia Operational Improvements Project" or "Project".

DRPA has been approved to receive a federal earmark in the total amount of $5,000,000 from FHWA to undertake the Project. The funds are administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the funding becomes available on an annual basis over the course of several years.

At this time, DRPA is executing a reimbursement agreement with PennDOT in the amount of $1,000,000 to undertake a study of the affected areas, identify problems, and recommend alternative
solutions. In subsequent years, staff expects one or more funding agreements in order to undertake the design phase and construction phase for this Project.

PennDOT has requested that the DRPA Board adopt a resolution authorizing the DRPA to enter into the funding agreements for the Project and directing the Corporate Secretary to attest to same. To meet PennDOT's requirement, DRPA staff requests that the Board authorize the execution of any and all reimbursement and funding agreements between DRPA and PennDOT pursuant to which DRPA will receive funding to perform the Project.

**SUMMARY:**

- **Amount:** $1,000,000 to be reimbursed to the DRPA from PennDOT; Potential total of $5,000,000
- **Source of Funds:** FHWA
- **Capital Project #:** Formerly BF-02-05;
- **Operating Budget:** N/A
- **Master Plan Status:** N/A
- **Other Fund Sources:** N/A
- **Duration of Contract:** Completion of the Project unless terminated earlier
- **Other Parties Involved:** FHWA, PennDOT, City of Philadelphia
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes the Chief Executive Officer of the DRPA to execute one or more reimbursement and/or funding agreement(s) with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the purpose of funding one or more phases of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge Philadelphia Operational Improvements Project and authorizes and directs the Corporate Secretary or his designee to attest same; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Chair, Vice Chair and the Chief Executive Officer must approve and are hereby authorized to approve and execute all necessary agreements, contracts, or other documents on behalf of the DRPA consistent with the terms of this Resolution. If such agreements, contracts, or other documents have been approved by the Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Executive Officer and if thereafter either the Chair or Vice Chair is absent or unavailable, the remaining Officer may execute the said document(s) on behalf of DRPA along with the Chief Executive Officer. If both the Chair and Vice Chair are absent or unavailable, and if it is necessary to execute the said document(s) while they are absent or unavailable, then the Chief Executive Officer shall execute such documents on behalf of the DRPA.

SUMMARY: Amount: $1,000,000 to be reimbursed to the DRPA from PennDOT; Potential total of $5,000,000
Source of Funds: FHWA
Capital Project #: Formerly BF-02-05;
Operating Budget: N/A
Master Plan Status: N/A
Other Fund Sources: N/A
Duration of Contract: Terminates upon completion of the Project or upon earlier termination
Other Parties Involved: FHWA, PennDOT, City of Philadelphia

BDS/RLB