ITEM NO.: DRPA-13-022  SUBJECT: Annual Church Requests for Parking under the Ben Franklin Bridge in Philadelphia

COMMITTEE:  Operations & Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE:  February 6, 2013

BOARD ACTION DATE:  February 20, 2013

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorize staff to enter into Agreements with three (3) churches in Philadelphia for the calendar year 2013 allowing special event parking under the Ben Franklin Bridge in the DRPA lots located along Florist Street between 3rd and 4th Streets and/or between 2nd and 3rd Streets.

PURPOSE: To provide parking in the lot under the Ben Franklin Bridge for attendees at special events held at three (3) churches that are neighbors of the bridge: St. Augustine RC Catholic Church, St. George Methodist Church, and Old First Reformed United Church of Christ.

Support services from Public Safety include unlocking and securing the gate to the lot before and after the events. Since Public Safety personnel would already be on duty, there would be no cost to DRPA. DRPA incurs no Operations Staff costs as well.

The churches will provide monitors to supervise the parking lot. The churches will also provide the necessary Certificates of Insurance and will adhere to DRPA’s Indemnification and Liability requirements. DRPA reserves the right to withhold approval on an as-needed basis if public safety, security, maintenance or construction issues arise and take precedence.

BACKGROUND: There is limited no-cost, non-metered 2 and 3 hour street parking available in the vicinity. Due to this limited availability and in an effort to maintain and promote good will with bridge neighbors, in the past, DRPA has approved requests for parking under the Ben Franklin Bridge for special services or events being held at the three (3) churches mentioned above.
Attendance at holiday services, festivals, musicals and celebrations at these churches ranges from 500 to 1,000 people from around the region. The following is a listing of events for which permission to enter into agreements is requested. All churches are insured and will provide required Certificates of Insurance to DRPA.

These events are:

*Easter Sunday – March 31, 2013 - Parking for Easter Sunday Services has been requested by all three (3) churches located along 4th Street: St. Augustine RC Church, St. George Methodist Church, and the Old First Reformed United Church of Christ. Request is for parking to accommodate congregants from 8:30 AM until 1:30 PM.*

*Saturday, June 1, 2013 - St. George Church is requesting parking for a Music Festival from 5 PM to 9 PM.*

*Sunday, August 18, 2013 – St. Augustine RC Church is hosting its annual Summer Sinulog celebration and requests parking from 9 AM to 4 PM.*

*Sunday, December 1, 2013 - St George Church presents its annual Christmas Musical and requests parking from 2 PM to 6:30 PM.*

It is recommended that the Board authorize DRPA to allow special event parking under the Ben Franklin Bridge in the lots located along Florist Street between 3rd and 4th Streets and/or between 2nd and 3rd Streets in Philadelphia for three (3) churches: St. Augustine Catholic, St. George Methodist and the Old First Reformed United Church of Christ. No Public Safety or Operations costs will be incurred by DRPA and Certificates of Insurance will be provided by the churches.

**SUMMARY:**

| Amount | $0 |
| Source of Funds | N/A |
| Capital Project # | N/A |
| Operating Budget | N/A |
| Master Plan Status | N/A |
| Other Fund Sources | N/A |
| Duration of Contract | N/A |
| Other Parties Involved | N/A |
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes DRPA staff to enter into Agreements with St. Augustine’s RC Church, St. George Church and Old First Reformed United Church of Christ for the calendar year 2013 allowing special event parking on the dates indicated in the lots under the Ben Franklin Bridge located along Florist Street between 3rd and 4th Streets and/or between 2nd and 3rd Streets, at no cost to DRPA.

SUMMARY:

- Amount: $0
- Source of Funds: N/A
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- Master Plan Status: N/A
- Other Fund Sources: N/A
- Duration of Contract: N/A
- Other Parties Involved: N/A