

SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.: DRPA-16-112

**SUBJECT: NJ DOT Transportation
Alternatives Program Grant for the BFB
South Walkway Bicycle & Pedestrian Ramp
Project**

COMMITTEE:

Operations & Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE:

October 11, 2016

BOARD ACTION DATE:

October 19, 2016

PROPOSAL: That the DRPA Commission authorizes staff to enter into an agreement with New Jersey Department of Transportation, Division of Local Aid and Economic Development to receive grant funding through the New Jersey Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

PURPOSE: This Resolution allows DRPA authorized officials to sign a Federal Aid Agreement with NJ DOT and receive grant funding as awarded through NJ DOT's TAP program to offset costs associated with the Construction Phases of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge South Walkway Bicycle & Pedestrian Ramp Project.

BACKGROUND: The Benjamin Franklin Bridge South Walkway Bicycle and Pedestrian Ramp Project includes the design and construction of a new ramp to replace the existing stairway on the south side of the Bridge in Camden to improve access to the South Walkway. The proposed ramp will improve connectivity between Philadelphia and Camden for pedestrians and bicycles and encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation for both commuter and recreational users. The proposed bicycle and pedestrian ramp will facilitate joint use by pedestrians and bicyclists, and provide safe and efficient access to the BFB for both recreation and commuting and will be fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additionally, the pedestrian/bicycle ramp links the "East Coast Greenway" in Pennsylvania which is part of Philadelphia's trail network, known as the "Circuit" with the New Jersey portion of the Circuit, the Camden Greenway, thus creating a total 750 mile corridor for hiking and bicycle use between Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The funding awarded from the TAP program will be used to assist with the construction phase of the project.

The Transportation Alternatives Program provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways. The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) was authorized under Section 1122 of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and is codified at 23 U.S.C. sections 213(b), and 101(a) (29). Section 1122 provides for the reservation of funds apportioned to a State under section 104(b) of title 23 to carry out the TAP. The national total reserved for the TAP is equal to 2 percent of the total amount authorized from the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund for Federal-aid highways each fiscal year (23 U.S.C. 213(a)).

SUMMARY:

Amount:	Awarded Amount
Source of Funds:	NJ DOT – TAP (Grant Funded)
Capital Project #:	BF1302
Master Plan Status:	N/A
Other Fund Sources:	N/A
Duration of Contract:	Grant Completion
Other Parties Involved:	NJ DOT; FHWA; DVRPC

DRPA-16-112
Operations & Maintenance Date: October 11, 2016
Board Date: October 19, 2016
NJ DOT Transportation Alternatives Program Grant
for the BFB South Walkway Bicycle & Pedestrian Ramp Project

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the appropriate Staff of the Delaware River Port Authority be and hereby are authorized to enter into an Agreement with The New Jersey Department of Transportation, Division of Local Aid and Economic Development and receive awarded grant funding from the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) for the construction of the Benjamin Franklin South Walkway Bicycle & Pedestrian Ramp Project.

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. 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 DRPA.

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