



Richland County
Transportation Ad Hoc Committee
October 26, 2021 -4:00 PM
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29201

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Overture Walker, Chair, Bill Malinowski, Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, and Jessica Mackey

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston, Derrek Pugh, Gretchen Baron, Michelle Onley, Tamar Black, Leonardo Brown, Michael Maloney, Allison Steele, Angela Weathersby, Kyle Holsclaw, Justin Landy, Ashiya Myers, Randy Pruitt, Stacey Hamm, Steven Gaither, Shane Kitchen, Lori Thomas, John Thompson, Dwight Hanna, Quinton Epps and Aric Jenson

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. O. Walker called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **Regular Session: September 28, 2021** – Ms. McBride moved, second by Ms. Mackey, to approve the minutes as distributed.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, Livingston, O. Walker, and Mackey

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. McBride, to adopt the agenda as published.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, Livingston, O. Walker and Mackey

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

- a. **Three Rivers Greenway Ph. 2 Funding** – Mr. Maloney stated there are two parts to the request. One was for the project, which was a request from outside the County, with the River Alliance. The second part is where the money comes from within the Penny. The project would essentially be a joint effort with the River Alliance. The River Alliance and the Boyd Family will be providing all the design and permitting for the project, and the construction costs for the bridge across the Broad River. The existing section, Section A, Phase I, would be provided by the Penny. He noted the County staff will be managing the development of the trail. The River Alliance will be managing the actual bridge across the Broad River, as well as the construction costs. In May, the River Alliance requested roughly \$1.8M to \$2M, but in September they requested \$2.2M to complete the part of the project that connects the Broad River Bridge. The funding would come from the 18 bikeway projects that were previously on the “not approved” list by SCDOT. The dollar amount from those projects, and one other project identified as an unlinked cul-de-sac that did not connect anywhere. The total referendum value for those projects is \$3.7M. He noted staff is not making any recommendation because it requires moving a referendum amount; therefore, it is being left to the Committee and Council.

Ms. McBride inquired about how this fits into the referendum and the priorities set for funding.

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Mr. Maloney responded this is one of the referendum projects from I-26 to the Zoo, to connect to Boyd Island, and to connect across the Broad River. There was a Section (b) that is not going forward. The estimated cost in 2014 was \$10,252,747, and the referendum amount was \$7,902,242.

Ms. McBride inquired about the specific amount for this project, since we typically divide projects.

Ms. Steele responded other greenway projects were broken into sections, but this project was not. It was a lump sum project.

Mr. Maloney noted, with what has been completed, there is a balance of \$150,000 remaining, and some of that would be necessary to close out Section A, Phase I, which is near completion. He stated the only option for the project would be to shift funds.

Ms. McBride stated, for clarification, in order to fund this project, we need to take funding from the same pot of money, which could affect other funding areas.

Mr. Maloney responded in the affirmative. He noted this is an outside request coming in.

Ms. McBride inquired if we have addressed all the other priorities in this area.

Mr. Maloney responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Malinowski noted the estimated project cost was \$10.2M. The referendum amount for the overall project was approximately \$7.9M. If the Boyd family is contributing \$3.6M that would total \$11.5M. He inquired why we need to use funds from the "not approved" projects.

Mr. Maloney responded the \$10.2 M amount was a 2014 estimate.

Mr. Malinowski inquired why we do not have a current estimate. He requested the minutes where Council approved the River Alliance's proposed Saluda Riverwalk project. He inquired which county the new bridge is located in.

Mr. Maloney responded the bridge is in Richland County.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the County is in talks with West Columbia and the City of Columbia to ensure they are in agreement with this taking place.

Mr. Maloney responded they have spoken with the City of Columbia.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if Boyd Island is privately owned.

It was noted it is owned by the City of Columbia.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if there is a memorandum of understanding that will be created for the use of Boyd Island, if the development is approved.

Mr. Maloney responded it will require an agreement.

Mr. Malinowski stated he could not support this project until Council is given additional information.

Mr. Livingston stated the Three Rivers Project started with an original scope that included Section A and B. The funds appropriated for that project was not enough to complete the greenway. He stated we were fortunate enough to have a philanthropist to come forward to commit \$3.6M, if the County could come up with the remaining \$2.2M to assist with getting the County through Phase II of the project. He noted this was an opportunity to get something done with unspent funds from projects that are no longer viable projects. One of the things we discussed was trying to leverage funding from sources.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Mackey, to approve the request.

Mr. Malinowski noted he does not see, in the documentation, where staff has informed us we need \$5.8M to complete Phase II.

Mr. Maloney responded the difference is the addition of \$3.6M provided by the Boyd Family and the \$2.2M requested of the Transportation Penny.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the Transportation Department has confirmed the numbers.

Mr. Maloney responded that is the difference between the May and September numbers.

Mr. Malinowski made a substitute, seconded by McBride, to defer this item until the committee can get additional information.

In Favor: Malinowski and McBride

Opposed: Livingston, O. Walker and Mackey

The motion failed.

In Favor: Livingston, O. Walker and Mackey

Opposed: Malinowski and McBride

The vote was in favor.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:24 PM.