



HISTORIC
FRANKLIN
TENNESSEE

ITEM #5
WRKS 10/26/2010

MEMORANDUM

October 26, 2010

TO: City of Franklin Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric Stuckey, City Administrator *ESS*
Lisa Clayton, Director of Parks
Andrew Orr, Sustainability/Grants Coordinator

SUBJECT: Transportation Enhancement Grant Proposal

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) regarding a grant proposal to fund improvements at Eastern Flank Battlefield Park and to consider the corresponding resolution.

Background

The acquisition of Eastern Flank Battlefield Park marked a significant achievement in battlefield preservation. Funding constraints have limited the reclamation and development of the property from becoming the engaging historical park outlined in the master plan.

Given the priority and budgetary constraints of improving access to the park, the City is seeking to leverage local funding. The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Transportation Enhancement Grant program is currently soliciting grant proposals for bicycle and pedestrian related improvements, conversion of old rails-to-trails, transportation related education initiatives, landscape beautification, and also historic preservation related improvements.

Using the outcome of the public meeting held May 13, 2010, discussions with the Battlefield Preservation Commission, and the park master plan, the City put together a consensus based proposal that fits within the regulations of the grant program, budget constraints, and the desires of the broad stakeholder groups.

The City proposes to construct a 22' double bituminous surface treatment (DBST) half loop access drive with a new pervious parking area near the Fleming Center. The proposal also requests funding for interpretive signage, landscape enhancements, trash receptacles, and bicycle racks.

Financial Implications

The grant program is competitive and there is no guarantee Franklin will be awarded. Typically, grant awards are announced nine months after the submittal date. If selected, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen would have the opportunity to approve the project at that time and agree to fund 20% of the total project cost set forth in the grant proposal.

Recommendation

It is recommended that BOMA endorse the corresponding resolution to allow staff to proceed with the submittal of the Transportation Enhancement Grant.

RESOLUTION 2010-79

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin is seeking to make improvements to the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park by constructing a half loop access drive into the park, installing pervious parking, marking the battlefield with interpretive signage, and adding other park amenities consistent with the master plan.

WHEREAS, Improving access to Eastern Flank Battlefield Park has been identified as a top priority for the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

WHEREAS, the City may apply to the Tennessee Department of Transportation for Transportation Enhancement grant funds to assist with the costs associated with making improvements to the park.

WHEREAS, the City would need to provide a 20% match of all project costs set forth in the proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE THAT:

Mayor John Schroer is hereby authorized to sign and submit an application for Transportation Enhancement funds for the purpose of constructing a half loop access drive, constructing a pervious parking lot, installing interpretive signage, and adding other park amenities. The City will match the requested amount with at least twenty percent of the total project cost coming from the City's capital fund revenues and in-kind labor and materials.

Approved and Adopted this 26th day of October, 2010.

Attest:

John Schroer
Mayor

Eric Stuckey
City Administrator/Recorder