



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III
Chairperson

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Agenda item # 7

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

May 14, 2024

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Davis **Seconded By:** Mr. Merrill

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: SMART SCALE Project Budget Increase for Intersection Improvements at US 58 and Robinson Ferry Road (UPC 119687) in Brunswick County

WHEREAS, the Board's SMART SCALE Project Prioritization Process last approved December 4, 2023 and as revised January 16, 2024, provides that a project that has been selected for funding must be re-scored and the funding decision reevaluated if there are significant changes to either the scope or cost of the project, such that the anticipated benefits relative to funding requested would have substantially changed; and

WHEREAS, the Board's SMART SCALE Project Prioritization Process further provides that if an estimate increases prior to project advertisement or contract award that exceeds the following thresholds, and the applicant is not covering the increased cost with other funds, Board action is required to approve the budget increase:

- i. Total Cost Estimate <\$5 million: 20% increase in funding requested
- ii. Total Cost Estimate \$5 million to \$10 million: \$1 million or greater increase in funding requested
- iii. Total Cost Estimate > \$10 million: 10% increase in funding requested; \$5 million maximum increase in funding requested; and

WHEREAS, section 33.2-214 requires projects funded wholly or partially with funds from the State of Good Repair Program pursuant to section 33.2-369, the High Priority Projects Program pursuant to section 33.2-370, the Highway Construction District Grant Programs pursuant to section 33.2-371, the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program pursuant to section 33.2-372, or capital projects funded through the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement

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Program pursuant to section 33.2-373 in the Six-Year Improvement Program to be fully funded within the six-year horizon of the Six-Year Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, the Intersection Improvements at US 58 and Robinson Ferry Road (UPC 119687) project (the Project) was submitted for consideration by Brunswick County and selected for \$4,260,602 in funding through the Highway Construction District Grant Program in the fourth round of the prioritization process pursuant to section 33.2-214.1; and

WHEREAS, the Project demonstrated benefits related to safety and received a score of 5.21 resulting in a rank of 13 out of 19 projects selected for funding in the Richmond District;

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2023, the Board approved a budget increase of \$227,356 due to updated unit costs and inflation; and

WHEREAS, the Project is administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), thus far has incurred expenditures of approximately \$322,999 and is in the process of closing scoping in preparation for upcoming public involvement activities; and

WHEREAS, due to design refinements necessary to ensure functionality of all intersection movements, the Project's cost estimate is currently \$5,920,953; resulting in a shortfall of \$1,432,995; and

WHEREAS, VDOT recommends Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase of \$1,432,995 using surplus Richmond District Highway Construction District Grant Program funds (UPC -21766); and

WHEREAS, taking into consideration both the previous and proposed SMART SCALE budget increases, the Project was re-scored resulting in a revised score of 3.75 and a reduction in rank to 17 out of 19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, that the SMART SCALE budget increase of \$1,432,995 for the Project, using surplus Richmond District Highway Construction District Grant Program funds (UPC -21766), is approved.

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CTB Decision Brief
**SMART SCALE Project Budget Increase for Intersection Improvements at US 58 and
Robinson Ferry Road (UPC 119687) in Brunswick County**

Issue: The Intersection Improvements at US 58 and Robinson Ferry Road (UPC 119687) project (the Project) was submitted for consideration by Brunswick County and selected for \$4,260,602 in funding through the Highway Construction District Grant Program in the fourth round of the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (Board) SMART SCALE Prioritization Process. On May 24, 2023, the Board approved a SMART SCALE budget increase of \$227,356 for the Project due to updated unit costs and inflation. Due to design refinements necessary to ensure functionality of all intersection movements, the Project's cost estimate has increased to \$5,920,953; resulting in a shortfall of \$1,432,995. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is seeking Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase of \$1,432,995 for the Project using surplus Richmond District Highway Construction District Grant Program funds (UPC -21766).

Facts: The Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process, last approved December 4, 2023 and as revised January 16, 2024, provides that a project that has been selected for funding must be re-scored and the funding decision reevaluated if there are significant changes to either the scope or cost of the project, such that the anticipated benefits relative to funding requested would have substantially changed.

Item 12.a. of the Board's SMART SCALE Prioritization Process states that if an estimate increases prior to project advertisement or contract award that exceeds the following thresholds, and the applicant is not covering the increased cost with other funds, Board action is required to approve the budget increase:

- i. Total Cost Estimate <\$5 million: 20% increase in funding requested
- ii. Total Cost Estimate \$5 million to \$10 million: \$1 million or greater increase in funding requested
- iii. Total Cost Estimate > \$10 million: 10% increase in funding requested; \$5 million maximum increase in funding requested

The Intersection Improvements at US 58 and Robinson Ferry Road (UPC 119687) project was submitted for consideration by Brunswick County and selected for \$4,260,602 in funding through the Highway Construction District Grant Program in the fourth round of the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (Board) SMART SCALE Prioritization Process. The Project demonstrated benefits related to safety and received a score of 5.21 resulting in a rank of 13 out of 19 projects selected for funding in the Richmond District

On May 24, 2023, the Board approved a SMART SCALE budget increase of \$227,356 for the Project due to updated unit costs and inflation.

The Project is administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and is in the process of closing scoping in preparation for upcoming public involvement activities. Thus far, the Project has incurred an estimated \$322,999 in expenditures. Due to design refinements

necessary to ensure functionality of all intersection movements, the Project's cost estimate has increased to \$5,920,953; resulting in a shortfall of \$1,432,995.

Taking into consideration both the previous and proposed SMART SCALE budget increases, the Project was re-scored resulting in a revised score of 3.75 and a reduction in rank to 17 out of 19.

On April 16, 2024, VDOT fully briefed the Board on this matter and recommends Board approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase of \$1,432,995 using surplus Richmond District Highway Construction District Grant Program funds (UPC -21766).

Recommendation: Approval of a SMART SCALE budget increase of \$1,432,995 using surplus Richmond District Highway Construction District Grant Program funds (UPC -21766).

Action Required by CTB: The CTB will be presented with a resolution for a formal vote to approve the SMART SCALE budget increase.

Result, if Approved: If approved, funds will be transferred so that the project can advance.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: None