

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: December 12, 2006

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: O. Marvin Sowers, Jr., Planning Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2007 Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Revenue Sharing Program

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Revenue Sharing Program provides an opportunity for the County to receive up to an additional \$1.0 million for road improvements for the 2007 fiscal year. The program requires a dollar-for-dollar match by the County toward improvements to the local road system. The Revenue Sharing Program enables the County to better implement its current list of road improvements by providing an additional infusion of funds which can accelerate the construction of current projects or can be used for any other transportation-related need.

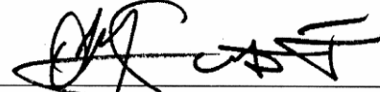
This year the Commonwealth Transportation Board approved new guidelines for the Revenue Sharing Program. The most significant change to the program is a tiered approach to providing funds. All requests in the preceding tier must be funded before requests in the next tier are considered. Tier one provides funding when the governing body commits *more than* \$1 million in local funds for a \$1 million State match. If requests exceed funds available, municipalities will compete for the available funds based on the amount of local funds committed above the matching funds. To be competitive among other municipalities, staff recommends committing \$1.1 million in County money toward the Revenue Sharing Program for a combined total of \$2.1 million.

If Revenue Sharing funds are available, VDOT has strongly encouraged the County to allocate most of the funds to the Ironbound Road (Route 615) widening project to keep it on schedule. The estimated cost of the project when it is scheduled to go to bid in mid-2009 is approximately \$14.5 million. However, only \$10.3 million is currently allocated, leaving a shortfall of \$4.2 million. VDOT continues to refine its cost estimates. If the allocated amount is later found unnecessary, the remaining monies can be transferred to any other project regardless if it was originally intended for Revenue Sharing funds. Staff recommends using \$2 million of the combined State and local funds toward Route 615 widening and \$100,000 toward current landscaping projects.

It is staff's opinion that the County should indicate its intent to fully participate in the FY 2007 Revenue Sharing Program at a local cost of \$1.1 million. This will provide the opportunity to receive the maximum additional infusion of funds toward transportation projects. The County must formally request participation in the FY 2007 program by December 22, 2006. Attached is a draft resolution of intent to participate in the program.

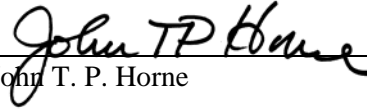
Please note that VDOT is soliciting interest in the FY 2007 Revenue Sharing Program on a delayed schedule. The Board should anticipate the FY 2008 Revenue Sharing Program information in the upcoming months. At that time, staff will bring forward recommendations regarding Ironbound Road, landscaping, improvements to the Monticello Avenue corridor, and the Route 60 relocation project. The Monticello Avenue corridor improvements, which were presented to the Board during its consideration of the New Town Settler's Market rezoning case earlier this year, have been allocated \$860,000 by the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Organization. These funds will be available in 2009 and 2010. Supplemental funding will be necessary and staff will be working with VDOT to determine the amount needed and the schedule. Further, it is anticipated that the Route 60 relocation project will be a funding priority in FY 2008. At that time preliminary engineering, which is adequately funded, will be able to progress further and funding needs will be more refined.

Staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the attached resolution stating the County's intent to participate in the FY 2007 Revenue Sharing Program.



O. Marvin Sowers, Jr.

CONCUR



John T. P. Horne

JTPH/cec
VDOTRevShare07.mem

Attachment