THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: August 25, 2020

Subject: Interlocal Maintenance Agreement between Buncombe County and City of Asheville for Sidewalk Construction on New Leicester Highway

Staff Resource(s): Jade Dundas, Capital Projects Director
Vinnie Sullivan, Capital Projects Project Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Buncombe County regarding maintenance and responsibility for the City's newly constructed sidewalks and associated improvements on New Leicester Highway.

Background:

- The City of Asheville is in the midst of planning for a project to add sidewalks and pedestrian crossings on New Leicester Highway from Patton Avenue to Old County Home Road.
- In order to complete the network of sidewalks in the area, the City proposes to extend sidewalk construction approximately 600 feet outside City limits into Buncombe County jurisdiction to join with the existing sidewalk.
- The City will fund and manage construction of the new sidewalk. The Interlocal Agreement stipulates that the maintenance of sidewalks and associated improvements installed as part of the Project will be the responsibility of the County and City within their respective jurisdictions.
- The Project is funded through a federal grant, administered through NCDOT, with matching funds provided by the City.
- The current hold on funding due to budget challenges with NCDOT make the schedule for the project undetermined at this time. Once started, construction is anticipated to last approximately 12 months.

Vendor Outreach Efforts: None, as this is an interlocal agreement with Buncombe County, there is no other option for who we are entering the agreement with.

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and Accessibility

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Construction of sidewalks that will meet City and all other applicable construction standards
- Improve mobility and safety on local streets
- Adhere to federal guidance and project funding

Con(s):

- Construction will be disruptive to adjacent residences and businesses

Fiscal Impact:

- Funding for the sidewalk project is already included in the adopted Capital Improvement Program(CIP), with federal funding of approximately $2.5 million and City matching funds of $726,000. The Interlocal Agreement does not impact the project funding.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Buncombe County regarding maintenance and responsibility for City's newly constructed sidewalks and associated improvements on New Leicester Highway.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 20-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE AND CITY OF ASHEVILLE REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SIDEWALKS ON NEW LEICESTER HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to pursuant to N.C.G.S 160A-461, units of local government may enter into agreements with each other in order to jointly exercise any power or function of local government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville desires to construct sidewalks to improve pedestrian traffic along New Leicester Highway; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville is in receipt of federal funding for the construction of sidewalk and pedestrian crossing improvements on New Leicester Highway extending from Patton Avenue into the jurisdiction of Buncombe County; and

WHEREAS, the City and County have agreed that each will be responsible for the maintenance of the new sidewalks and associated improvements that are located within their respective jurisdictions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Asheville and Buncombe County regarding construction and maintenance of a sidewalk and associated improvements along New Leicester Highway.

Read, approved, and adopted this the 25th day of August 2020.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney