



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 16-18

PATRON: G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director
DATE: February 25, 2016

AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT FOR CONTINUED BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY GRANT FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES (DMV)

WHEREAS, the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians in the Commonwealth of Virginia is of the utmost concern to elected officials and those who promote non-motorized transportation alternatives; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 bicycle and pedestrian accidents made up 13 percent of the Commonwealth's traffic fatalities, an increase when compared with the falling rates of automobile crash fatalities; and pedestrian injuries and fatalities are high in proportion to the number of pedestrian trips due to high transit use in the region; and

WHEREAS, Northern Virginia represents one of the highest crash areas for pedestrians in the Commonwealth, and

WHEREAS, the Commission approved several earlier resolutions to accept funding from DMV and Virginia Department of Transportation to develop and update bicycle pedestrian safety guides and an affiliated website; and

WHEREAS, specifically NVRC, has developed the website www.sharevaroads.org, and held community training events classes in Spanish and English on bicycle and pedestrian safety, partnering on project outreach with Fairfax Safe Routes to Schools, Inova Trauma Services, local staff, and bicycling safety advocates; and

WHEREAS, NVRC has successfully collaborated with over 60 safety programs statewide, to publish and distribute over 150,000 copies (in English and Spanish) of the pocket guide "Sharing the Road in Virginia, what bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists need to know", and 170,000 copies of the fast facts bicycle and pedestrian safety bookmarks, helping to educate the most vulnerable populations in safe bicycling and walking practices, particularly as they relate to their interaction with the Commonwealth's roadways; and

WHEREAS, under the 2014 and 2015 DMV grants, the program expanded to also provide those in high crash areas with safety and reflective gear for safer walking and biking; and

WHEREAS, the staff from NVRC, through this program, has developed a close partnership with local jurisdictions, local schools, safety officers, INOVA, bicycle and pedestrian advocates, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Health, the Department of Education, and the Department of Transportation technical experts in bike and pedestrian safety; all of whom commend the effectiveness of this training and outreach program; and

WHEREAS, Department of Motor Vehicles offers Federal Highway Safety grant funds to continue regional outreach activities supporting bicycle and pedestrian safety ; and

WHEREAS, NVRC staff proposes applying for up to \$115,000 grant, which requires a 25 percent match, to continue website maintenance, update pocket guides and tip sheets; to continue outreach efforts, distribution of reflective safety gear, offering classes for teens and adults in Spanish and English; and

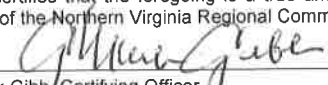
WHEREAS, the grant allows in kind contributions from partners may be used as match;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission authorizes the Executive Director to submit a grant application to the Commonwealth Transportation Board to fund updated bicycle and pedestrian pocket guides and fact sheets, to maintain the website, and to fund and oversee community classes for teens and adults and continue to publish the guides for statewide distribution in Spanish and English;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission authorizes the Executive Director to enter into contracts with the Department of Transportation should the proposal be accepted for funding.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission on February 25, 2016.


G. Mark Gibb / Certifying Officer

