



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 18-01

PATRON: Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director
DATE: July 27, 2017

AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDS IF AWARDED BY AARP FOR A COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

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 pedestrian crashes and fatalities continue to increase in proportion to all crashes and fatalities in the of the Commonwealth's traffic facilities; 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, the Commission has supported NVRC projects under DMV for approved the earlier resolutions to accept funding from DMV in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and earlier VDOT grants since 2005 to develop and update bicycle pedestrian safety guides and an affiliated website; and

WHEREAS, pedestrians older than 51 represent a growing segment of the population and a disproportionate portion of traffic fatalities in the state and in Northern Virginia since 2015; and

WHEREAS, NVRC has developed the website www.sharevaroads.org, 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 200,000 copies of the fast facts bicycle and pedestrian safety bookmarks, helping to educate the most vulnerable populations in safe bicycling and walking practices, participates in community outreach and education events throughout the region, and is a member of the DMV pedestrian safety taskforce; and

WHEREAS, under the 2014 DMV grant, the program has expanded to educate those in high crash areas in conjunction with distribution of 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, AARP, bicycle and pedestrian advocates, the Division 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 recommend the effectiveness of this training and outreach program; and

WHEREAS, through partnership with AARP Virginia, NVRC was notified of AARP's livable community initiative and walk audits, and their Community Challenge Grant opportunity that may match an opportunity to pilot citizen science based data collection and walk audits of bicycle and pedestrian crash hotspots in the region; ; and

WHEREAS, NVRC staff proposes applying for up to \$20,000 grant, to partner with Virginia Tech, Fairfax and Alexandria councils on aging and transportation staff, Inova, VDOT, and other partners to develop a citizen science based application associated with walk audits, piloting the program with AARP Virginia, partners, local staff, and volunteers in Alexandria and Fairfax; and


WHEREAS, the grant would cover staff time, direct costs, and Virginia Tech consulting costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Northern Virginia Regional Commission authorizes the Executive Director to submit a grant to AARP Virginia and for the Director to enter into contracts with the AARP Virginia should the proposal be approved 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 July 27, 2017.



ROBERT W. LAZARO, JR., CERTIFYING OFFICER