

Staff Report

Subject: Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

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Department: County Manager

Meeting Date: 06/04/2024

Item Description: Consideration for ECBOC to approve the application of the grant Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Summary Recommendation:

Staff requests consideration for ECBOC to approve the application of the grant Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Executive Summary:

Effingham County has an approved project, the Treutlen Trail, a bike and pedestrian path that was part of the TSPLOST (Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) plan. Currently, \$1.35 million is allocated for the Treutlen Trail. The Georgia Hi-Lo Trail initiative aims to integrate the Treutlen Trail into a larger plan to construct a continuous bike trail spanning from Athens to Tybee Island.

The Fiscal Year 2023 Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) grants, provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, offer an opportunity to secure additional funding for this integration. The ATIIP grants are designed to support projects that develop active transportation networks and spines, ensuring the construction of safe and connected facilities for walking and biking.

A critical requirement of the ATIIP grants is the 20% non-federal funding match, necessitating a combination of local, state, or private funding sources to complement the federal investment.

By leveraging the available \$1.35 million and seeking additional funds through the ATIIP grants, Effingham County can significantly advance the development of the Treutlen Trail, contributing to the larger vision of the Georgia Hi-Lo Trail. This integration will enhance local infrastructure and provide broader regional connectivity, promoting healthier and more sustainable transportation options for our residents.

Background:

1. There is a 20% cost share requirement.
2. The requested amount is \$5,400,000

Alternatives for the Commission to Consider:

1. Approve ECBOC's application for the grant Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

2. Do not approve the application of the grant Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).
3. Provide Staff with Direction

Recommended Alternative:

Staff recommends Alternative number 1—Approve the application for the grant Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Other Alternatives:

N/A

Department Review: *(list departments)*

Effingham County Human Resources

Effingham County Finance Office

Funding Source:

There is a 20% cost share requirement.