

## Staff Report

**Subject:** Ratification of Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Application

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**Department:** Effingham County Management

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, August 6, 2024

**Item Description:** This is a request for the Effingham County Board of Commissioners (ECBOC) to ratify the submission of the SS4A Planning and Demonstration Grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) for the Effingham County Light Installation and Traffic Enhancement (LITE) Project.

### Summary Recommendation:

Staff requests the Board to ratify and approve the submission of the SS4A grant application.

### Executive Summary:

Effingham County has submitted a grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration Grant for the Effingham County LITE Project. This project aims to enhance roadway safety by installing 100 solar-powered LED light poles along high-risk roadways. The goal is to reduce nighttime crashes, particularly in underserved areas, and improve safety for all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. The project aligns with SS4A's goal of reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries.

The grant seeks \$1,408,000 in federal funding with a required 20% local match, totaling \$352,000 from Effingham County, making the total project cost \$1,760,000.

### Background:

Effingham County prioritizes roadway safety improvements in response to increasing traffic volumes and incidents. The SS4A Planning and Demonstration Grant is designed to fund safety action plans and demonstration projects that address critical safety issues. The LITE Project, part of the county's larger safety action plan, will focus on solar-powered lighting solutions for enhanced visibility and reduced energy costs, with long-term goals of improving safety and sustainability on county roads.

### Alternatives for the Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the ratification of the SS4A grant application submission.
2. Do not approve the ratification.
3. Provide staff with direction.

### Recommended Alternative:

Staff recommends Alternative number 1

### Other Alternatives:

N/A

### Department Review: *(list departments)*

Effingham County Management

### Funding Source:

The grant requires a 20% local cost share. Effingham County's \$352,000 portion will be allocated from the transportation improvement budget.

### Attachments:

Effingham LITE Demo information

Grant Narrative