



Office of the Town Manager
Christopher E. Martino

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STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date:	November 9, 2022
Agenda Title:	Waterloo Street Speed / Safety Improvements Project Update
Requested Action:	No action necessary. Informational briefing only.
Department / Agency Lead:	Community Development
Staff Lead:	Denise Harris

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the October 11, 2022 Town Council meeting, it was requested that staff provide an update on the Waterloo Street Speed / Safety Improvement Project. The adopted FY2023 Annual Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budgeted and appropriated \$70,000 in ARPA money towards a survey and engineering of Waterloo Street. The adopted FY2024 – FY2028 CIP includes \$250,000 of general funding in FY2024 as a placeholder for implementation of the engineered improvements, Project cost estimates will be updated based on this engineering work. Costs have continued to increase, since the original scoping was done as part of the FY2021 budget process.

As an alternative, Council also requested the cost to restripe back to the street's original treatments. That cost is currently estimated to be approximately \$20,000.

A Request for Proposal for ARPA funded contracts was issued in October, 2022. Bids are due mid-November. It is anticipated that surveying and engineering may begin early 2023. The construction of improvements would be undertaken beginning in summer 2023 (FY 2024) and completed sometime in 2024.

BACKGROUND

The Town of Warrenton has been actively working to address the speed and safety concerns on Waterloo Street for several years. Unfortunately, the original funding for improvements was frozen, along with all other capital projects not already under construction, due to the pandemic. At the end of November of 2021, staff produced a memo (attached) for Council outlining the outcome of temporary improvements and offered several options for how to move forward. Included in this memo was the speed data results from the installation of the temporary delineators and additional signage. At that time, staff was directed to continue to move forward with restoring the funding that had been removed during the pandemic.

Town Council budgeted and appropriated \$70,000 in ARPA funding for surveying and engineering of Waterloo Street in the adopted FY2023 annual budget and included \$250,000 of general funding in FY2024, of the adopted FY2024 – FY2028 CIP, for implementation of the engineered improvements.

ARPA funding requires the Town to adhere to federal procurement regulations. The Request for the surveying and engineering proposal was issued in October, 2022 with bids due mid-November.

Below is a timeline of the project over the last five years.

- 2017 Walkability Audit
- August 29, 2019 Community Meeting
- April and May, 2020 certified mailings of information on restriping plan
- April, 2020 staff going door to door with restriping plan information multiple times
- April Press Release and Spring 2020 Town Crier Article
- April – July, 2020 On-site individual meetings with property owners
- November 7, 2020 Community Meeting
- December, 2020 Town Council direction to pilot temporary measures
- Winter 2021 – Installed additional speed signage, increased enforcement, pilot temporary delineators, and lowered speed limit in school zone
- March – July, 2021 Conducted speed studies to determine effectiveness of pilot delineators
- FY21 – FY22 Funding removed from the CIP and budget due to the pandemic
- November, 2021 Town Council update and direction to continue to include funding in future CIP
- January, 2022 Rendering of potential improvements developed
- July, 2022 FY23 Funding to proceed with survey and engineering appropriated with ARPA funding
- October, 2022 Open Ended Request for Proposals issued for ARPA projects

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

At this time, staff is continuing to secure a consultant to conduct the survey and engineering of the project through the On-Call ARPA RFP, and then will work to update the project estimates and timelines during the FY2024 – FY 2029 fiscal planning process based on the results of the surveying and engineering work. Staff's recommendation is to continue to follow the goals of resolving the speed and safety complaints of Waterloo Street unless Council determines there are higher priority projects to pursue with the Town's limited resources

Service Level / Policy Impact

Plan Warrenton 2040 adopted the Walkability Audit Report that contained recommendations for chicanes, bulbs outs, moving the parking to the south side of Waterloo Street, high visibility crosswalks, and signage. Likewise Plan Warrenton adopted the Complete Streets Report and designated Waterloo Street as a Signature Street between Broadview and Fairfax, an Old Town Street from Fairfax to Main

Street. These typologies call for active transportation improvements with a continuous pedestrian network, marked crossings, and identified as the most multi-modal or multi-purpose streets in Town.

Plan Warrenton 2040 overarching Transportation Chapter goals are:

T-1 Improve Multimodal Capacity and Safety that encourages trips by walking, bicycling, and transit.

T-2 Enhance the traveling experience by creating great streets.

T-3 Promote livability in the Town by creating great places where residents and visitors feel welcome and safe.

T-4 Provide an equitable and connected multi-modal network.

Fiscal Impact

CIP FY23 - \$70,000 for survey and engineering

CIP FY24 - \$250,000 Placeholder for implementation

Restripe – Approximately \$20,000

Install Radar Speed Signs – approximately \$16,000 for two locations

Project cost estimates will be updated based on the survey and engineering work. Additional funding may be necessary and could be provided by remaining ARPA funding, some of which was moved off other street projects at the Council's October meeting.

If Town Council decides to proceed with engineering, VDOT Revenue Sharing grant pre-applications window is open May – July, 2023. Successful projects would be eligible for 50/50 cost share in either FY25 or FY27. The General Assembly and the Commonwealth Transportation Board have modified funding schedules and it is unclear at this time how Revenue Sharing grants will be handled in the Six Year Transportation Plan.

Legal Impact

ARPA funding requires the Town adhere to federal procurement regulations which are more stringent and time consuming.

Timing

No contracts have been issued yet. A Request for Proposal for ARPA funded surveying and engineering contracts was issued in October, 2022. Bids are due mid-November. It is anticipated that surveying and engineering may begin early 2023. The ARPA regulations require the Town encumber the funding by December 31, 2024 and actually spend the funding on the project by December 31, 2026. The construction of improvements would be undertaken beginning in summer 2023 (FY 2024) and completed sometime in 2024.

Restriping back to the street's original treatments is weather dependent as the asphalt is required to be a certain temperature and supplies may be backlogged. Therefore, any restriping may not be possible until after winter.

ATTACHMENTS

1. CIP FY23-28 Project Sheet
2. Waterloo Traffic Calming Renderings
3. November 9, 2021 Town Council Memo
4. December 18, 2020 Town Council Memo
5. November 10, 2020 Town Council Work Session Update
6. September 5, 2019 Transportation and Public Safety Committee Presentation
7. August 8, 2019 Transportation and Public Safety Committee Memo