

**Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Transportation Advisory Committee
Action Request**

Meeting Date: May 20, 2021 **Agenda Item Number:** 5

Action Requested: Consideration of a resolution endorsing the City of Winston-Salem's application to USDOT for a RAISE grant to fund the Long Branch Trail Extension project.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION: **Attachments:** Yes No X

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) has made available funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program to assist communities with transportation projects that also create high-quality jobs, improve safety, protect the environment, and generate equitable economic opportunity for all Americans. The program, formerly known as Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) and Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), will provide grants on a competitive basis, based on criteria including safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, innovation, and partnership.

RAISE grants for infrastructure projects will range in size from \$5,000,000 to \$25,000,000, while smaller awards will also be made for planning studies. All awards require a 20% local match and no more than \$100,000,000 will be awarded to a single state.

The City of Winston-Salem has expressed an interest in pursuing a RAISE grant to fund the construction of the Long Branch Trail from Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive to 25th Street and to design and construct a connection between the Long Branch Trail and the funded Salem Parkway Multi-Use Path. The existing Long Branch Trail extends through the Innovation Quarter and connects with the Salem Creek Greenway, providing a multimodal transportation option that is part of a 25-mile network of trails. The Long Branch Trail Extension project would expand access to this trail network into neighborhoods with a high percentage of minority and low-income residents. The project would also include a direct connection between the Long Branch Trail and the Salem Parkway Multi-Use Path, further expanding the urban trail network and providing residents and visitors safe and convenient bicycling and walking transportation options to numerous key destinations.

While there is no financial commitment required of the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO), the City of Winston-Salem's RAISE grant application will benefit from the support of the regional transportation planning agency.

TAC Vote: Motion by: _____ **Second by:** _____

Vote: For _____ **Against** _____

RESOLUTION
ENDORING THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM'S APPLICATION TO USDOT
FOR A RAISE GRANT TO FUND THE LONG BRANCH TRAIL EXTENSION PROJECT

A motion was made by TAC Member _____ and seconded by TAC Member _____ for the adoption of the following resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted.

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) has made available funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program to assist communities with transportation projects that also create high-quality jobs, improve safety, protect the environment, and generate equitable economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the RAISE grant program, formerly known as Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) and Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), will provide grants on a competitive basis, based on criteria including safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, innovation, and partnership; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem has expressed an interest in pursuing a RAISE grant to fund the construction of the Long Branch Trail from Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive to 25th Street and to design and construct a connection between the Long Branch Trail and the funded Salem Parkway Multi-Use Path; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will improve sustainable transportation options for neighborhoods with a high percentage of minority and low-income residents and improve the city's overall bicycling and walking network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization adopts a resolution endorsing the City of Winston-Salem's application to USDOT for a RAISE grant to fund the Long Branch Trail Extension project.

Adopted on this the 20th day of May, 2021.

Mike Horn, Chairman
Transportation Advisory Committee

Kirk E. Ericson, Secretary
Transportation Advisory Committee