

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. B(4)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: November 18, 2003

TITLE: Reimbursement Agreement for the Roberson Place Bikepath

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| DEPARTMENT: PLANNING | PUBLIC HEARING: YES __ NO <u>X</u> __ |
| ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Budget Ordinance C. Map | FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Dale McKeel – 918-7329 |

PURPOSE

The Town of Carrboro has received funding from the N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO to construct the Roberson Place Bikepath. NCDOT has prepared an Agreement for this project. It is recommended that the Board of Aldermen adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to sign and execute the Reimbursement Agreement (Attachment A) and adopt an ordinance amending the FY03-04 fiscal year budget to transfer \$11,400 from the Capital Reserve Fund to the General Fund for the local match portion of the project (Attachment B).

INFORMATION

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen on January 16, 1996 issued a conditional use permit (CUP) for the Roberson Place development. The development provided for a 20-foot easement for a bikepath between Rand Road and Wesley Street on a new location. Development of the bikepath will provide bicyclists and pedestrians an alternative route between South Greensboro Street and the Libba Cotton Bikeway. The bikepath will serve as an excellent connection between southern Carrboro, downtown Carrboro and UNC-Chapel Hill (Attachment C).

FISCAL IMPACT

The Town Engineer has prepared a design and cost estimate for construction of the bikepath. The total cost is estimated to be \$157,000. The Town has secured funding of \$157,000 for this project from two sources:

- N.C. Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Program - \$100,000
- Federal STP-DA funds through the DCHC MPO - \$45,600

The STP-DA (Surface Transportation Program – Direct Attributable) funds require a 20 percent match, \$11,400, from the Town. On June 24, 2003 the Carrboro Board of Aldermen directed staff to reserve \$11,400 in the Capital Reserve Fund for this construction.

In addition to the estimated construction costs, there will likely be additional costs for the acquisition of temporary construction easements. The temporary construction easements are located on open space land owned by the Roberson Place Homeowners Association and in the back portion of one single-family lot. The easement areas are, for the most part, relatively small strips of land running parallel to the permanent easement for the bike path. The temporary construction easements will allow the Town to use the easement area during the construction of the bike path. Once construction is complete, the temporary easement area will be restored as nearly as possible to its original condition.

A certified real estate appraiser is advising the Town concerning the value of the easement area. The Town previously approached the property owners regarding the possibility of donating the temporary construction easements, but the property owners have stated a preference for cash compensation. It appears likely that the expense of hiring an appraiser will exceed the value of the temporary construction easements.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Board of Aldermen adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Town Clerk to sign and execute the Reimbursement Agreement (Attachment A) and adopt a budget ordinance appropriating funds for the local match portion of the project (Attachment B).