

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. C(8)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT
MEETING DATE: November 18, 2008

TITLE: Award of Contract for Morgan Creek Greenway Conceptual Plan

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING	PUBLIC HEARING: YES __ NO <u>X</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Draft Contract	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Adena Messinger, Transportation Planner 918-7329 Randy Dodd, Environmental Planner 918-7326 Brendan Moore, Facilities Administrator 918-7392

PURPOSE

The Greenways Commission has selected a firm to develop the conceptual plan for the Morgan Creek Greenway. Staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract with Coulter, Jewell & Thames, pending approval from the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

INFORMATION

In 2003 the citizens of Carrboro approved a bond referendum that included funds to be allocated to the planning and construction of two greenways: one in the Bolin Creek corridor and one in the Morgan Creek corridor. That same year, the Town sought, and was granted, funds from the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization to help fund the planning and construction of the greenways.

In June 2008 the Board established the Greenways Commission to guide the planning of the greenways. The Greenways Commission began meeting in January 2008 and has since been advancing the greenways projects. A Request for Qualifications was issued on June 13, 2008 and three firms responded. The Greenways Commission invited two of the firms – Greenways, Incorporated and Coulter, Jewell & Thames – to interview with the Commission. On September 15, 2008 the Commission selected Coulter, Jewell, & Thames as the firm to develop the conceptual plan for the Morgan Creek Greenway.

Staff has worked with the Town Attorney; Purchasing Officer; Coulter, Jewell & Thames; and NCDOT to develop a contract and scope of work. NCDOT is in the process of auditing the contract and approval of the contract is anticipated within the week.

The final draft contract is provided as Attachment B for Board of Aldermen review. Minimal changes if any are expected as a result of the NCDOT audit.

FISCAL and STAFF IMPACT

The total cost of the plan is estimated to be \$50,000:
\$40,000 has been allocated to the Town from the MPO STP-DA funds.

\$10,000 has been budgeted in the CIP, and represents the Town's 20% match to the STP-DA funds.

Costs associated with environmental permitting and field surveying are deemed to be outside the contract scope of services. If there is need for either of these services, the Town will be required to cover the cost. The magnitude of these costs won't be known until the project is underway; staff's best estimate is that they could range from \$0-\$10k. A source of funding for these costs has not yet been identified.

Randy Dodd and Adena Messinger, from the Planning Department, and Brendan Moore, from the Recreation and Parks Department, are the staff liaisons to the Greenways Commission and will be working with the Commission and consultant throughout the project.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that, pending NCDOT approval, the Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute a contract with Coulter, Jewell, & Thames for the purpose of developing a Morgan Creek Greenway conceptual plan for which the Town has been allocated STP-DA funds as well as bond funds.