

# BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. C(6)

## AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: June 15, 2010

**TITLE: Contract for Planning and Design Services for the Wilson Park Multi-use Path**

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> Planning	<b>PUBLIC HEARING:</b> YES ___ NO __ X__
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> A. Resolution	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> Jeff Brubaker – 918-7329 Brendan Moore – 918-7392 Randy Dodd – 918-7326

### PURPOSE

The attached resolution authorizes the Town Manager to execute a contract with a qualified private engineering firm to provide planning and design services for the Wilson Park Multi-use Path (NCDOT TIP Project U-4726).

### INFORMATION

On April 6, 2010, the Board of Aldermen approved a Municipal Agreement with NCDOT for design and construction of the Wilson Park Multi-use Path. This Agreement was executed by NCDOT on April 21, 2010, and the Town received federal funding authorization for preliminary engineering on April 29, 2010.

The next step involves selecting an engineering firm to provide planning and design services. Town staff expect to release a Request for Qualifications in June. (The RFQ must be approved by NCDOT prior to release.) The Municipal Agreement stipulates that all preliminary engineering activities (environmental documentation; right-of-way certification; and final plans, specifications, and estimates) be completed by November 2011. Construction activities need to be completed by May 2012. Given the administrative requirements of other transportation projects scheduled in the CIP and the timeline for using local bond funding, it is recommended that the Wilson Park Multi-use Path planning and design progress expeditiously. The attached resolution would allow execution of a contract with a qualified engineering firm during the Board of Aldermen's summer break. (The unexecuted contract must be approved by NCDOT.)

### FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

Preliminary engineering costs for the Wilson Park Multi-use Path are estimated to be \$25,000 to \$35,000. Federal authorization for PE is \$21,085 (\$16,868 federal, \$4,217 local); however, the Town can request an increase if the cost warrants it.

Federal funding for the Wilson Park Multi-use Path under the Surface Transportation Program-Direct Attributable (STP-DA) category was programmed by the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization in 2008. The project is slated for implementation in the most recent CIP, with a local match provided by the sidewalks and greenways bond.

Since the cost estimate has increased since federal funds were originally programmed, the local match may be more than the minimum 20% of the total cost. To mitigate the increased local contribution, Town staff have applied for a Recreational Trails Program grant through the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. As of this writing, no final decision has been made yet on this grant.

Staff time will be necessary to administer the design and construction of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommend that the Board of Aldermen approve the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute the contract.