

## NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

**FOR:** Chair Phyllis J. Randall and Members  
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

**FROM:** Monica Backmon, Chief Executive Officer

**DATE:** November 3, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Letter of Endorsement for City of Manassas Park's Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program Application

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1. **Purpose:** To seek the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) approval of the letter of endorsement for City of Manassas Park's Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program Application.
2. **Suggested Motion:** *I move Authority approval of the letter of endorsement for City of Manassas Park's Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program Application.*
3. **Background:** As is customary with NVTa partnerships, requests for endorsement are received from regional agencies and local jurisdictions embraced by the Authority. NVTa has received an endorsement request from the City of Manassas Park for their Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP) Application.
4. **Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program:** VHSIP is administered through the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and is guided by VDOT's [Strategic Highway Safety Plan](#) which has a goal to move toward zero deaths across the roadway network in Virginia. VHSIP receives funding from federal and state sources that require certain criteria to be met by program fund recipients. The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) under the U.S. Department of Transportation serves a critical role in Federal response to save lives on our Nation's roads. VDOT has established VHSIP to develop, implement, and update strategic highway safety plans that identify and analyze highway safety problems and opportunities that produce projects or strategies that aim to reduce safety problems. By evaluating Strategic Highway Safety Plans (SHSP) on a regular basis, accuracy of data and priority of proposed strategies is strengthened.

**VHSIP Criteria:** To be eligible under HSIP, a project (1) must be consistent with VHSIP, (2) correct or improve a hazardous road location or feature, or address a highway safety problem, (3) be identified based on crash experience, crash potential, crash rate, or other data supported means, (4) be listed as a Highway Safety Improvement Project, and (5) comply with other title 23 requirements. Applicant submissions will be evaluated based on their project or strategy's ability to ensure consistency with VHSIP, the utilization of a data-driven process, focus on safety performance, and investing in all eligible roads and trails.

Additional projects under consideration will include vulnerable road user projects and specified safety projects.

- 5. City of Manassas Park's VHSIP Application:** The City of Manassas Park is seeking VHSIP funding to implement numerous local systemic safety initiatives along the Manassas Drive corridor. The project area extends from the City's west corporate limit to the intersection of Manassas Drive and West Carondelet Drive. The City has utilized a data driven, strategic approach to identifying specific systemic safety improvements. The scope of the project includes the following improvements: high visibility signal backplates, flashing yellow arrows at signals, crosswalks, pedestrian improvements, fluorescent yellow green pedestrian crossing signs, rectangular rapid-flashing beacons, cobra lighting, and unsignalized intersection improvements. A resolution of support for the projects and VHSIP application has been passed by the City's Governing Body and is attached hereto.

**Attachments:**

- A.** City of Manassas Park's Request for Endorsement Letter and Resolution
- B.** Draft Endorsement Letter for City of Manassas Park's Program Application



**CITY OF MANASSAS PARK**

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[www.manassasparkva.gov/](http://www.manassasparkva.gov/)

**City Manager:**  
*Laszlo A. Palko*

**City Clerk:**  
*Lana A. Conner*

**City Attorney:**  
*Dean Crowhurst*

**Mayor:**  
*Jeanette Rishell*

**Vice Mayor:**  
*Alanna Mensing*

**Council Members:**  
*Haseeb Javed*  
*Laura Hampton*  
*Yesy Amaya*  
*Darryl Moore*

**October 31, 2022**

Monica Backmon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa)  
3040 Williams Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22031

RE: Request for NVTa Endorsement of the City of Manassas Park's Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant Application

Ms. Backmon,

I am writing to request NVTa's endorsement of the City of Manassas Park's submitted applications under the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

Manassas Park is seeking HSIP funding to implement numerous local systemic safety initiatives along the Manassas Drive corridor. The project area extends from the City's west corporate limit to the intersection of Manassas Drive and West Carondelet Drive. The City has utilized a data-driven, strategic approach to identifying specific systemic safety improvements.

The scope of the project includes the following improvements: high visibility signal backplates, flashing yellow arrows at signals, crosswalks, pedestrian improvements, fluorescent yellow green pedestrian crossing signs, rectangular rapid-flashing beacons, cobra lighting, and unsignalized intersection improvements. Two applications were successfully submitted on October 28, 2022.

A resolution of support for the application was approved by the City's Governing Body on October 18, 2022. A copy is attached hereto.

The HSIP improvements serve as a City priority that will provide benefits on a local and regional scale. Thank you for your consideration of support and if you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at (703)-335-8809.

Sincerely,

Steven Hall  
Transportation Program Manager

**RESOLUTION 22-1000-2183**

**APPROVING THE CITY'S SUBMISSION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION'S HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
(VHSIP)**

**Motion: Vice Mayor Mensing    Second: Councilmember Hampton**

**Date of Meeting: October 18, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, in January 2022 the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) approved the Virginia Highway Safety Investment Strategy that continued deployment of proven systemic and hybrid safety countermeasures across the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, the systemic safety initiatives for locally maintained streets and roads include the following: locally-maintained roads, Flashing Yellow Arrows (FYA), High-Visibility Signal Backplates (HVSBS), Pedestrian Crossings, Curve Signage, Unsignalized Intersections, and Road Reconfiguration (Road Diet); and

**WHEREAS**, local projects will be selected and funded based on a variety of criteria, including return on investment (ROI), project's relevance to meeting the goals of Virginia's Highway Safety Investment Strategy, and project scope and feasibility; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Manassas Park has partnered with VDOT and consultant ATCS ("Team") to identify the Manassas Drive corridor from Baker Street to Carondelet as a project area; and

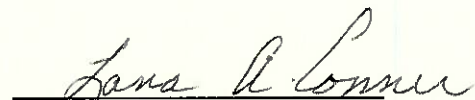
**WHEREAS**, the Team has completed the required data-gathering and analysis and proposed recommendations have been identified for systemic safety improvements along the corridor for inclusion in a VHSIP application submission.

**THEREFORE, BE IT BE RESOLVED**, the City will submit two applications to VHSIP prior to the due date of October 31, 2022, for a total request of \$935,000 with no required match; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body of Manassas Park, Virginia, authorizes the application, submission, and acceptance of any funds from the VHSIP grant application and potential award.

Approved and Adopted by the Governing Body on October 18, 2022

  
Jeanette Rishell, Mayor

  
Lana A. Conner, City Clerk Attest

Ayes: Mensing, Hampton, Amaya, Javed, Moore, Rishell

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None



**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**  
*The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia*

November 3, 2022

Mr. Raymond Khoury, PE  
Virginia State Traffic Engineer  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
1401 East Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: NVTa Endorsement of City of Manassas Park's Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program Application

Mr. Khoury,

On behalf of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa), I am writing to express our full support for endorsement of the City of Manassas Park's application under the Virginia Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP). The City of Manassas Park is seeking VHSIP funding to implement numerous local systemic safety initiatives along the Manassas Drive corridor which identifies a core goal of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) in prioritizing safety in all investments and projects in the U.S.

The project area extends from the City's west corporate limit to the intersection of Manassas Drive and West Carondelet Drive. A Data driven, strategic approach to identifying specific systemic safety improvements will be utilized, particularly with respect to the added HSIP rule in identifying vulnerable road users (VRU). Based on the City's analysis, the project identifies a High-Risk Rural Road (HRRR) with improvements that collectively supports VHSIP and Virginia Department of Transportation's Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

Federal funding through VHSIP would greatly facilitate the City of Manassas Park's Manassas Drive corridor initiatives as well as add to NVTa's priority of safety in all investments and projects in the NOVA transportation network.

Thank you for your consideration of the City of Manassas Park's VHSIP application as well as your time and attention.

Best Regards,

Phyllis J. Randall  
Chair

Cc: The Honorable Jeanette Rishell, Mayor of City of Manassas Park  
Laszlo A. Palko, City Manager, City of Manassas Park  
Monica Backmon, NVTa Chief Executive Officer