



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 19-05

PATRON: Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director
DATE: September 27, 2018

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY GRANT FUNDING FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians in the Commonwealth of Virginia is of the utmost concern to elected officials and those who promote non-motorized transportation alternatives; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 bicycle and pedestrian accidents made up 12 percent of the Commonwealth's traffic fatalities, an increase when compared with the downward trend of automobile crash fatalities; and pedestrian injuries and fatalities are high in proportion to the number of pedestrian trips due to high transit use in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Commission approved the earlier resolutions to accept funding from DMV in 2017, and earlier VDOT grants since 2005 to develop and update bicycle pedestrian safety guides and an affiliated website; and

WHEREAS, NVRC has developed the website www.sharevaroads.org, initiated an RFP for regional training classes in Spanish and English, successfully collaborated with over 60 safety programs statewide, to publish and distribute over 150,000 copies (in English and Spanish) of the pocket guide "Sharing the Road in Virginia, what bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists need to know" and 170,000 copies of the fast facts bicycle and pedestrian safety bookmarks, helping to educate the most vulnerable populations in safe bicycling and walking practices, particularly as they relate to their interaction with the Commonwealth's roadways; and

WHEREAS, under the 2017 DMV grant, the program has expanded to educate those in high crash areas and to train licensed trainers to continue outreach in high crash communities; and

WHEREAS, the staff from NVRC, through this program, has developed a close partnership with local jurisdictions, local schools, safety officers, INOVA, bicycle and pedestrian advocates, AARP, the Division of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Health, the Department of Education, and the Department of Transportation technical experts in bike and pedestrian safety; all of whom recommend the effectiveness of this training and outreach program; and

WHEREAS, Department of Motor Vehicles offers Federal Highway Safety grant funds to continue regional outreach activities supporting bicycle and pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, NVRC staff has applied for up to \$115,000 grant, which requires a 25 percent match to continue website maintenance, update pocket guide and info sheet, outreach efforts, distribution of reflective safety gear, and to continue classes for teens and adults in Spanish and English; and

WHEREAS, the grant allows in-kind and the use of fringe charges to count as match and NVRC will seek out funding and in-kind contributions from partners; and

WHEREAS; Virginia DMV awarded NVRC the grant of \$118,899 for 2019 activities, for a grant period of October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS; the grant application and request to the Commonwealth Transportation Board fully funded a revised bicycle and pedestrian pocket guide and fact sheet, maintain the website, establish a communications and social media program, to fund and oversee community classes and outreach for teens and adults, and continue to publish the guides for statewide distribution in Spanish and English;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission authorizes the Executive Director to enter into contracts with the Department of Transportation should the proposal be accepted for funding.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission on September 27, 2018.

ROBERT W. LAZARO, JR., CLERIFYING OFFICER

