



Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission

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RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING RAISE GRANT APPLICATION TO FUND PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING PHASE FOR THE RIVANNA RIVER BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the US Department of Transportation released a Notice of Funding Opportunity on November 30, 2023 for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program – formerly Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) and Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Rivanna River Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge between Pantops and Woolen Mills has been identified as a high-priority regional project in multiple planning documents prepared by the City of Charlottesville, Albemarle County, the Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization (CA-MPO), and the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC); and

WHEREAS, substantial effort has been invested through collaboration among the TJPDC, the CA-MPO, the City of Charlottesville, Albemarle County, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and the general public to evaluate potential bridge locations and select a preferred alignment; and

WHEREAS, the unknown risks associated with construction costs for the bridge have resulted in significant contingencies that need to be applied to baseline project costs in any funding application through existing state funding programs; and

WHEREAS, the completion of the preliminary engineering phase would result in better project understanding to develop more accurate estimates of the project construction costs; and

WHEREAS, TJPDC staff submitted a 2023 RAISE grant application for this same project that while not awarded was scored as a “highly recommended” project and identified as a Project of Merit through the RAISE grant program; and

WHEREAS, TJPDC staff will submit a 2024 grant application to complete the preliminary engineering phase of the project to reduce the contingencies and identify opportunities for project construction;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board is in full support and endorses the RAISE planning grant funding application for the Rivanna River Bicycle and Pedestrian Crossing Preliminary Engineering Phase.

CA-MPO Policy Board Chair

Date