TO: NOACA Board of Directors

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 1, 2018

RE: Resolution No. 2018-021: Towpath Trail Phase IV Cost Increase, Cuyahoga County

ACTION REQUESTED
The Board of Directors is asked to consider re-appropriating $3,950,000 of NOACA funding, previously programmed for the Towpath Trail Phase I, to finance the revised alignment and associated cost of the Towpath Trail Phase IV.

The Finance and Audit Committee recommended this item at its May 2018 meeting.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION
The Cleveland Towpath Trail, sponsored by the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works, will complete approximately 100 miles of bikeway, extending from New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County to Lake Erie at Cleveland.

Each Phase of the Towpath Trail has been studied to refine the preferred alignment as documented in the Towpath Trail Extension: Alignment and Design Study and developed in accordance with the Ohio Department of Transportation’s (ODOT’s) plan development process (PDP).

The final two phases of the Towpath Trail, Phases I and IV, are programmed in the SFY 2018 - 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Phase I of the Towpath Trail begins at Harvard Avenue and ends at Steelyard Commons. The original alignment for Phase I began at Harvard Avenue, followed along the east side of the Cuyahoga River, under the Denison Harvard Bridge, crossing the Cuyahoga River and continued along the west side of the Cuyahoga River to Steelyard Commons. The original alignment was determined to be too costly due to environmental, right-of-way and utility issues.

The revised alignment for Phase I follows along Harvard Avenue and Jennings Road, to Steelyard Commons within existing the right-of-way. The revised alignment greatly reduced the estimated total cost, from
$11,515,000 to $6,350,000. In December, the Board of Directors approved a TIP amendment for the revised scope and estimated cost of Phase I. Bids for Phase I were received in April and are currently under review to identify a low bid, but appear to be in line with the revised estimate.

Phase IV of the Towpath Trail begins at Tremont/Literary Trailhead and ends at Canal Basin Park. The original alignment for Phase IV, along University Road was determined to be too dangerous. The proposed alternate route, involves building a structure, parallel to University Road, along the north side, from Literary Road to West 5th Street. The alternate route requires the acquisition of parcels to accommodate the proposed structure. The alternate route, additional right-of-way and new structure have increased the project’s estimated cost by $5.3 million, nearly all of which could be covered by the savings from Phase 1. Phase IV is scheduled to be awarded in March 2019.

The revised alignment and estimated cost for Phase I and Phase IV were presented in a TIP amendment to the Planning and Programming Committee at its October 2017 meeting. The Planning and Programming Committee recommended to approve the revised alignment and the estimated cost for Phase I only.

The Committee also recommended to table the TIP amendment for Phase IV until the bids for Phase I were reviewed and an apparent low bid was identified. The Committee further recommended that the scope and funding modifications to Phase IV be presented to the Finance and Audit Committee for its recommendation.

Table 1 shows the total funds programmed for each project phase (as amended). Table 2 shows only the NOACA funds programmed for the project (as amended).

### Table 1: Total funds for the Towpath Trail Phases I and IV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Phase I</th>
<th>Phase IV</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SFY 2018-2021 TIP</td>
<td>$11,515,000</td>
<td>$9,165,000</td>
<td>$20,680,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revision</td>
<td>$6,350,000</td>
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<td>$14,500,000</td>
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<td>Difference</td>
<td>$5,165,000</td>
<td>($5,335,000)</td>
<td>($170,000)</td>
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</table>

### Table 2: NOACA funds for the Towpath Trail Phases I and IV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Phase I</th>
<th>Phase IV</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>$7,200,000</td>
<td>$15,950,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revision</td>
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<td>$11,150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>$3,950,000</td>
<td>($3,950,000)</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Request</td>
<td>($3,950,000)</td>
<td>$3,950,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Approved via Resolution 2017-045.

The project sponsor is requesting that $3,950,000 of NOACA funding previously programmed for Phase I be transferred to Phase IV to finance the revised alignment and increased project cost.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The request would re-appropriate NOACA funding from Towpath Trail Phase I to the Towpath Trail Phase IV in the amount of $3,950,000, increasing the amount for Phase IV from $7,200,000 to $11,150,000. There is no financial impact to other projects in the TIP as the requested funding would utilize savings from the revised
scope and estimated cost of Towpath Trail Phase I. Thus, the overall commitment from NOACA to the Towpath project would then remain unchanged.

**CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS**

With Board approval, the TIP will be amended to reflect the revised scope and increased funds.

GG/em/3011b
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NCACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina, and the City of Cleveland; and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Towpath Trail is approximately 100 miles, extending from New Philadelphia, in Tuscarawas County to Harvard Avenue in Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, the final six miles of the Cleveland Towpath Trail, sponsored by the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works, beginning at Harvard Avenue and extending to Canal Basin Park, in Cleveland, was split into four phases for implementation; and

WHEREAS, each phase of the Cleveland Towpath Trail was processed through project planning review (PPR); and

WHEREAS, the preferred alignment for each phase was identified per the Towpath Trail Extension: Alignment and Design Study and refined in accordance with the Ohio Department of Transportation’s (ODOT’s) project development process (PDP); and

WHEREAS, Phase II of the Towpath Trail, at Steelyard Commons, from Belt Line Street to Quigley Road was completed in 2007, with local funds; and

WHEREAS, Phase III of the Towpath Trail, from the north entrance of Steelyard Commons to Literary Road was awarded and began construction in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Phase I and Phase IV of the Towpath Trail are programmed in the state fiscal year (SFY) 2018 – 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, the alignment for Phase I of the Towpath Trail, from Harvard Avenue to the south entrance of Steelyard Commons, was revised and the estimated cost was reduced; and

WHEREAS, the revised alignment and estimated cost for Phase I was approved in a TIP amendment in December 2017 (Resolution No. 2017-045); and

WHEREAS, bids for Phase I of the Towpath Trail, from Harvard Avenue to the south entrance of Steelyard Commons, were opened in March 2018 and are under review to identify an apparent low bidder; and

WHEREAS, the original alignment for Phase IV of the Towpath Trail, from Literary Road to Canal Basin Park, along University Road, is determined to be unsafe due to narrow roadway width, truck traffic and a steep slope; and

WHEREAS, an alternate alignment for Phase IV, from Literary Road to Canal Basin Park, is proposed along the north side of University Road, which involves the acquisition of additional right-of-way, on which to build a structure along landform on retained fill; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the proposed alternate alignment for Phase IV is significantly greater than the amount programmed in the NOACA TIP; and
WHEREAS, the project sponsor is requesting that $3,950,000 of NOACA funding, previously programmed for Phase I be re-appropriated to Phase IV to finance the revised alignment and associated cost; and

WHEREAS, the current Board approved maximum for the project is $7,200,000, thus a cost increase request would be limited to no more than $11,150,000. The remainder of the funds needed to complete implementation of the project will therefore be the responsibility of the project sponsor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of 45 principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina that:

Section 1. The re-appropriation of NOACA funding from Towpath Trail Phase I in the amount of $3,950,000 is approved for use on the Towpath Trail Phase IV.

Section 2. The NOACA 2018 - 2021 Transportation Improvement Program will be amended to reflect the new Board of Directors funding maximum of $11,150,000.

Section 3. The Executive Director is authorized to transmit certified copies of this resolution to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the Governing Board of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 8th day of June 2018.

Secretary:                         
Date Signed: 6-8-18
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PID</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Type of Work</th>
<th>Funding Data</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>CUY CLEVELAND TOWPATH TRAIL (PHASE 4)</td>
<td>Construct Towpath Trail</td>
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<td>Cleveland: Tremont/Literary Trailhead to Canal Basin Park</td>
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<td>$14,500,000 2019</td>
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PE=preliminary engineering, RW=right of way, C=construction, CE=construction engineering, CO=construction contract, PEDD=preliminary engineering detailed design, PEPD=preliminary engineering preliminary development, AR=archeological recovery