



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Councilors
From: Rich Olson, City Manager
Date: August 21, 2014
Re: Consideration – Authorization to apply for Boating Infrastructure Grant

BACKGROUND:

In March 2013, the City Council authorized staff to apply for a CAMA Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Grant to purchase the property located at 702 and 708 Riverside Avenue from Riverside Houses LLC, in the amount of \$266,500. The City was notified in December 2013 that the grant had been awarded in the amount of \$260,157 to purchase the two parcels of property adjacent to the Pasquotank River and the Charles Creek Bridge. The City entered into a contract with NCDENR in April 2014 and has closed on the property this week. In anticipation of purchasing the property, the City placed \$78,000 in the Parks and Recreation Department's FY 2014-15 budget to demolish three dilapidated buildings and boat garages and restore some of the shoreline along the Shipyard property. On May 26, 2014, the City authorized staff to apply for a second CAMA grant in the amount of \$117,000 to improve public access to the deteriorating urban waterfront property through reconstruction and rehabilitation. In July, the City received notice that we were invited to submit a final application for CAMA funding due on October 17, 2014. In this application we will need to re-define our scope of work to lower the total project costs. There is also a Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG) that will cover the construction of fixed piers, floating docks and dinghy docks. This grant application is due August 28, 2014.

ANALYSIS:

The North Carolina Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG) is a federal program, administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service that provides funding to states for docking facilities and amenities for transient boaters. The NC Division of Marine Fisheries is the lead agency for the BIG in North Carolina. The BIG provides funding to construct, renovate and maintain boating facilities for transient boaters. Transient boats are described as non-trailerable, recreational, cruising vessels, 26 feet in length or longer. Dockage by these vessels may be for no more than ten (10) consecutive days. This concept fits

perfectly with our Mariners' Wharf docks and what we would like to see constructed at the Shipyard property.

There are three projects that are BIG eligible. They are the construction of a 60' X 6' pier with a 60' X 6' T at the end and 10 dinghy slips along the pier and T; the construction of a 60' X 6' fishing pier; repairing a pier that is located behind the existing boathouse. The estimate for these construction and renovation projects is \$51,000. The maximum grant allowance is \$100,000. The BIG requires a 25% cash match. Our minimum match will be \$12,750.

The application for the Boating Infrastructure Grant is due on August 28, 2014. The City will be notified by March 2015 if we have been approved to receive the grant.

ITEM	COST	CAMA ELIG	BIG ELIG	CITY EXP	PRIORITY
60' X 6' Fishing Pier	\$10,000	No	Yes	\$2,500	High
60' X 6' with 60' X 6' T w/ 10 Slips	\$32,000	No	Yes	\$8,000	High
Repair Pier	\$9,000	No	Yes	\$2,250	High
TOTALS:	\$51,000			\$12,750	

The Finance Committee discussed this matter during their meeting of August 21, 2014 and recommends approval.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, authorize City staff to apply for the Building Infrastructure Grant due August 28, 2014 in the amount of \$51,000 to repair one fixed pier and construct one T pier with dinghy docks and one fishing pier at the Shipyard property.