

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DEKALB, ILLINOIS TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, ON BEHALF OF THE DEKALB-SYCAMORE AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY, FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FUNDS FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of DeKalb, has agreed to serve as the lead agency and fiscal agent for the DeKalb Sycamore Area Transportation Study (DSATS), the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the DeKalb-Sycamore urbanized area; and,

**WHEREAS**, the total grant funds under this agreement are \$252,057 of which \$172,079 are Federal Metropolitan Planning Funds, \$36,751 are Federal Section 5303 Transit Funds, \$43,020 are State Local Match Planning Funds, and \$9,188 are local match funds from DSATS member organizations; and,

**WHEREAS**, at the April 24, 2013 meeting, the DSATS Policy Committee approved by unanimous vote, the FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), upon which an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation has been prepared; now,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of DeKalb Illinois as follows:

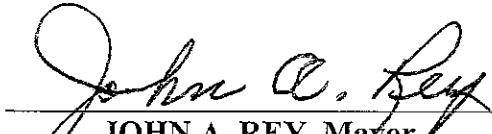
**Section 1.** That the Mayor of the City of DeKalb Illinois, is authorized and directed to execute an intergovernmental agreement with the State of Illinois, Department of Transportation, for federal MPO planning funds to support DSATS transportation planning activities during the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, a copy of which is attached hereto and made part thereof as Exhibit "A", subject to amendments acceptable to him, and such additional or supplementary forms as are required to implement the application for and receipt of funds contemplated hereby or otherwise to effectuate the City's program.

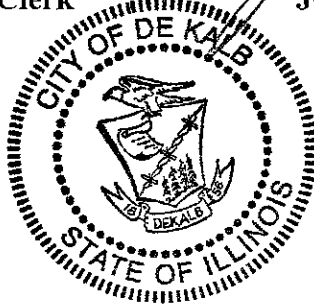
**Section 2.** That the City Clerk of the City of DeKalb be authorized and directed to attest the Mayor's signature.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL** of the City of DeKalb, Illinois at a regular meeting thereof held on the 10th day of June, 2013 and approved by me as Mayor on the same day. Passed on the Consent Agenda by roll call vote 7-0-1. Aye: Jacobson, Finucane, Lash, Snow, Naylor, O'Leary, Rey. Absent: Baker

ATTEST:

  
ELIZABETH E. PEERBOOM, City Clerk

  
JOHN A. REY, Mayor



**DATE:** June 5, 2013

**TO:** Mayor  
City Council

**FROM:** Rudy Espiritu, Acting City Manager  
Brian Dickson, Transportation Planner

**SUBJECT:** Resolution Approval of FY 2014 MPO Planning grant agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Enhance Communications and Relationships with our Residents, our Community Partners, and the City's Employees

**I. Summary:**

Approval of the provided resolution would authorize the Mayor to sign an intergovernmental agreement between the Illinois Department of Transportation and the City, on the behalf of the DeKalb-Sycamore Area Transportation Study (MPO) (see Exhibit "A"). The agreement is an annual routine matter, which allows DSATS to perform the required planning functions. The agreement would provide up to \$208,830 in federal funds for MPO-related planning activities for FY 2014 (July 2013-June 2014), and \$52,208 in local match funds, \$43,020 provided by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and \$9,188 provided by DSATS Member Agencies. As lead agency and fiscal agent, the funds would be administered through the City of DeKalb's Fund 09. The Public Works Department staff recommends approval of the resolution which will commit the City of DeKalb to no more than \$3,445.50 for local match funds as presently budgeted for FY14.

**II. Background:**

The DeKalb-Sycamore Area Transportation Study (DSATS), the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for this area, is responsible for prioritizing federal transportation investments in the region, providing policy direction on regional transportation issues, and developing comprehensive transportation plans for the area. During the formation process, the City of DeKalb agreed to serve as the lead agency and fiscal agent for DSATS.

To perform the required planning functions, the DSATS program is entitled to annual allocations of federal planning funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). For FY 2014, DSATS will receive \$208,830 in federal planning funds, for its planning activities. In order to access these funds, federal regulations require a 20% local match (\$52,208) be provided. For FY14, \$43,020 will be used from an IDOT Transportation Planning grant awarded to DSATS, and \$9,188, will be provided by the DSATS

member organizations (of which \$3,445.50 will be the City of DeKalb's portion). Based upon the DSATS Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) approved by the DSATS Policy Committee at its April 24, 2013 meeting, the agreed distribution of local match funding is as follows:

#### DSATS FY14 Local Match Distribution

| Organization    | Votes    | LM Contribution    | LM %          |
|-----------------|----------|--------------------|---------------|
| DeKalb          | 3        | \$ 3,445.50        | 37.5%         |
| Sycamore        | 2        | \$ 2,297.00        | 25.0%         |
| DeKalb County   | 1        | \$ 1,148.50        | 12.5%         |
| Cortland        | 1        | \$ 1,148.50        | 12.5%         |
| NIU             | 1        | \$ 1,148.50        | 12.5%         |
| IDOT            | 1        | \$ -               | 0.0%          |
| <b>DSATS LM</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>\$ 9,188.00</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

To access these funds, the DSATS Policy Committee approved a Unified Planning Work Program (contact Brian Dickson if you wish to review a copy of the document), which describes the activities to be undertaken during the grant period. DSATS staff must also maintain the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which identifies all transportation projects in the DSATS region, which use federal transportation funds, over the next four (4) years (contact Brian Dickson if you wish to review a copy of the document). The Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which identifies transportation plans for the next 20 years, must also be maintained. If staff support is not provided to develop these plans, all municipal, county, and IDOT projects within the DSATS region will be unable to receive federal transportation funds for local projects.

In FY 2014, these funds will be used to support all DSATS activities including:

- DSATS staff salaries;
- All activities staff participates in to support DSATS operations;
- DSATS office expenses;
- DSATS area traffic counts; and
- Special studies looking at ways to improve area transportation.

The Policy Committee, the decision-making body for the DSATS, approved the Work Program and DSATS budget on April 24, 2013. The Work Program was subsequently approved by IDOT, which manages the federal planning funds. The contract provided by IDOT reflects the terms and activities included in the Work Program.

#### **III. Community Groups/Interested Parties Contacted:**

The Unified Planning Work Program was developed, reviewed and approved by the DSATS Technical and Policy Committees at meetings that were open to the public. The draft document was also sent to the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration for their review and comment.

#### **IV. Legal Impact:**



Approval of the intergovernmental agreement is required in order to secure the federal planning funds provided through IDOT. The contract language is in a standard format provided by IDOT, and is nearly identical to the agreements approved for FYs 2005 through 2013. At their April 24, 2013 meeting, the DSATS Policy Committee, the decision-making body for the MPO program, approved the FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program on which the agreement is based.

**V. Financial Impact:**

If this contract is not signed, there will be no funds available to pay for the staff support to manage the grants which fund transportation projects in the DSATS region receiving federal funds, including the City of DeKalb, the City of Sycamore, the Town of Cortland, and DeKalb County. The funds from this agreement are managed through Fund 61. The FY 2014 budget for Fund 61 anticipates the City's receipt of \$208,830 in federal funds, and \$43,020 in state funds for MPO activities. The grant provides up to 80% of eligible MPO expenses. The funds from the proposed agreement support up to 15% of the MPO Director position based on total time spent on MPO business, 100% of the Transportation Planner position, up to 50% of the two City of DeKalb Intern positions, DSATS office expenses, and several MPO-related activities. As all funds received in Fund 61 for FY14 will be from federal and state sources, any surplus in the budget due to budgetary savings will be required to be returned to the federal and state funding sources, which support Fund 09. The remaining required local match funds of \$9,188, will be funded by the DSATS member organizations, of which, \$3,445.50 will be the City of DeKalb's portion which is presently included in the FY14 City budget.

**VI. Alternatives:**

The City Council can approve or deny the contract. However, should the Council fail to approve the contract; the planning funds would not be available to the City for the DSATS program. This would result in the loss of funding for the 1.4 FTE employees and the MPO planning activities to be managed through Fund 09 in FY 2014. The City would also be required to still provide staff support or find another organization to manage all transportation grants, which receive federal funding, otherwise, a possible \$5.4 million for scheduled highway transportation projects and \$8.7 million in transit capital projects in the next five (5) years could be lost to the City of DeKalb alone, along with many other IDOT, Sycamore, and DeKalb County transportation projects.

**VII. Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the City approve the resolution approving the intergovernmental agreement for the federal MPO planning funds to be made available to the DSATS program from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Respectfully submitted for City Council consideration.

