

Traffic Signal System Modernization (P500704)

Category Transportation
 Sub Category Traffic Improvements
 Administering Agency Transportation (AAGE30)
 Planning Area Countywide

Date Last Modified 11/17/14
 Required Adequate Public Facility No
 Relocation Impact None
 Status Ongoing

	Total	Thru FY15	Est FY16	Total 6 Years	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	Beyond 6 Yrs
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EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Planning, Design and Supervision	12,698	12,073	25	600	100	100	100	100	100	100	0
Land	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Site Improvements and Utilities	30,294	17,316	5,550	7,428	1,738	1,138	1,138	1,138	1,138	1,138	0
Construction	230	230	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	103	93	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	43,325	29,712	5,585	8,028	1,838	1,238	1,238	1,238	1,238	1,238	0

FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Current Revenue: General	9,053	355	670	8,028	1,838	1,238	1,238	1,238	1,238	1,238	0
G.O. Bonds	15,494	14,528	966	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recordation Tax Premium	6,778	5,191	1,587	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Aid	12,000	9,638	2,362	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	43,325	29,712	5,585	8,028	1,838	1,238	1,238	1,238	1,238	1,238	0

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (\$000s)

Maintenance				54	3	5	8	10	13	15
Program-Staff				600	50	50	100	100	150	150
Program-Other				36	3	3	6	6	9	9
Net Impact				690	56	58	114	116	172	174
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)					1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0

APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA (000s)

Appropriation Request	FY 17	1,838
Appropriation Request Est.	FY 18	1,238
Supplemental Appropriation Request		0
Transfer		0
Cumulative Appropriation		35,297
Expenditure / Encumbrances		30,936
Unencumbered Balance		4,361

Date First Appropriation	FY 07
First Cost Estimate	
Current Scope	FY 17 43,325
Last FY's Cost Estimate	40,849

Description

This project provides for the modernization of the County's aged traffic signal system. Phase I consisted of planning, requirements development, systems engineering, and testing. Phase II consists of acquisition of central system hardware and software, acquisition, and implementation of control equipment and communications for intersections, as well as reconfiguration of the communications cable plant. Phase I was completed in FY08. Phase II implementation commenced in FY09. As a result of the November 2009 failure of the existing system, Phase II was refined into two sub-phases, A and B, so that replacement of the existing system could be accelerated. Phase IIA encompassed critical work that was necessary to deactivate the existing system. Phase IIB includes all other work that is not critical to replacement of the existing system.

Estimated Schedule

Phase I - completed, FY07-08 Phase IIA - completed FY12, Phase IIB - FY13-16; ongoing Life Cycle Upgrades - FY17 and beyond.

Cost Change

Cost increase due to the addition of FY21-22 to this ongoing level-of-effort project.

Justification

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The existing traffic signal control system, though it has been highly reliable, is an aging system dependent on dated technology. Central and field communications devices are obsolete and problematic to maintain. As the technologies employed in the Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS) have advanced, it has become increasingly difficult to interface with the existing traffic signal control system (COMTRAC). Because of the limited functionality of COMTRAC, the system is not able to take advantage of the capabilities of the current generation of local intersection controllers. These capabilities provide a greater level of flexibility to manage traffic demands. In November 2009, the existing traffic signal system experienced a failure that caused significant congestion and delays throughout the County for nearly two days. This event led to an acceleration of the schedule to replace the existing system. The following reports were developed as part of the research, planning and system engineering work on this project. These reports documented the existing condition and need to modernize the existing signal control system, as well as the evaluation and engineering of specific components of the replacement system: White paper on the Status and Future of the Traffic Control System in Montgomery County, March 2001; Concept of Operations (rev 1.4), October 2007; TSSM Requirements (rev g), October 2007; TSSM Communications Master Plan (rev c), February 2009; TSSM Risk Assessment and Analysis (rev e), April 2009. Given the effort to modernize the signal system and its infrastructure, it is important and prudent to take steps to prevent the system from becoming outdated. A proactive program to replace equipment by its "life cycle" usefulness is required given the dependency on technology driven devices and software to maintain traffic control capabilities and full redundancy fail-over systems. This assumes a level of effort (LOE) designation and funding be appropriated beginning in FY17.

Fiscal Note

The county's traffic signal system supports approximately 800 traffic signals, about 550 of which are owned by the Maryland State Highway Administration (MSHA) and maintained and operated by the County on a reimbursement basis. MSHA plans to separately fund and implement other complementary work and intersection upgrades amounting to approximately \$12.5 million that are not reflected in the project costs displayed above. Project appropriations were reduced in FY09 (-\$106,000) and FY11 (-\$269,000) to reconcile the recall of a \$375,000 federal earmark that was originally programmed in FY07. MSHA has committed to provide \$12 million in State aid to this project. This aid was originally programmed during FY09-14, but did not materialize due to the State's fiscal situation. In addition \$2 million in State Aid was moved to the TSSM project from the State Transportation Participation (STP) CIP (No. 500722) in FY11 with repayment to STP programmed in FY17.

The Executive asserts that this project conforms to the requirements of relevant local plans, as required by the Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act.

Coordination

Advanced Transportation Management System, Fibernet, State Transportation Participation, Traffic Signals Project, Department of Technology Services, Maryland State Highway Administration