

RESOLUTION

GIVING THE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY TO REQUEST ADVANCE CONSTRUCT FROM MDOT AND EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR RIGHT OF WAY SERVICES OF THE 2023 RAISE GRANT PROJECT, COMPLETING DOWNTOWN LAUREL, CONTRACT I

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel has been awarded a United States Department of Transportation 2023 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant in the amount of \$24.8 million which requires no local match funding;

WHEREAS, the proposed project provides improvements to the east/west corridor along portions of 5th Street, Sawmill Road, and Teresa Street, including drainage, replacing deteriorated pavement, reconfiguring lane changes, lighting enhancements, landscaping, new ADA compliant sidewalks and two new roundabouts;

WHEREAS, design of the project has divided the project into two construction projects;

WHEREAS, Contract I consists of the eastern portion of the project from Cooks Avenue to 9th Avenue along 5th Street/Sawmill Road;

WHEREAS, Contract I portion is ready to begin the right-of-way phase of the project;

WHEREAS, the funding authorization for the right-of-way phase for Contract I has been requested from FHWA;

WHEREAS, to meet schedule requirements of the grant, the City is advised to request Advance Construct status from MDOT to proceed with right-of-way phase in anticipation of the ROW funding authorization;

WHEREAS, Neel-Schaffer has submitted a professional services contract for right-of-way acquisition in accordance with federal regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Laurel, Mississippi that:

1. The Administration is authorized to execute a professional services agreement, upon MDOT concurrence, with Neel-Schaffer not to exceed the amount of \$1,517,060.29 to provide right-of-way services for the 2023 RAISE Grant Project, Completing Downtown Laurel, Contract I.

2. That Administration is authorized to request advance construct status from MDOT in anticipation of the right-of-way funding authorization.
3. That Administration is authorized to make any necessary budget amendments.

Adoption of the above and foregoing Resolution was moved by Councilperson Thomas, the second was Councilperson Scruggs, upon roll call vote, the result was as follows:

YEAS: Capers, Scruggs, Thomas, Amos, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: Kelly, Carmichael

The Vice-President thereupon declared the motion carried and the Resolution adopted, this the 2nd day of June, A.D. 2026.

VICE- PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

ATTESTED AND SUBMITTED TO THE MAYOR BY THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

ON _____.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

APPROVED () DATE _____

VETOED () DATE _____

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK
