

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: May 2, 2018
To: The City Manager
From: Patrice Toney, Budget and Evaluation Director

Council Action Requested:

Consideration of Amendments to the FY 2017-18 Budget Ordinances for the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Strategic Focus Area: Service Excellence
Strategic Objective: Maintain City's Financial Strength
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

The proposed amendments to the FY 2017-18 budget ordinances authorize adjustments for the following purposes.

Appropriation of Grants and Other Revenues Received

- The Police Department has received additional federal forfeiture funds from the United States Department of Justice totaling \$249,700 and additional state controlled substance tax receipts from the Office of the State Auditor totaling \$28,430 to be used for the following: officer training (\$150,000), K-9 supplies including dog food and veterinarian expenses (\$60,000), informant funds (\$15,000), and the purchase of equipment (\$53,130).

Committee Action:

Committee	<u>Finance 5/14/18</u>	Action	<u>Approval</u>
For	<u>Unanimous</u>	Against	<u></u>

Remarks:

- Walk & Roll Winston-Salem is the city's open streets event, which temporarily closes several downtown streets to motor vehicles to provide a safe and fun place for people to walk, bike, and play. Since 2017, the city has partnered with the Winston-Salem Cycling Classic to conduct the Walk & Roll Winston-Salem event in conjunction with the Cycling Classic's road cycling races on Memorial Day. The race organizers manage street closures, food options, entertainment, and other event details, allowing Walk & Roll Winston-Salem organizers to focus on event promotion and safety education. The Wake Forest Innovation Quarter has long been a partner in organizing Walk & Roll Winston-Salem events and for 2018 has offered to sponsor the event in the amount of \$1,500. This sponsorship will allow staff to promote the event through social and print media and purchase event supplies, including shirts identifying volunteers as Walk & Roll Winston-Salem staff.

- The City of Winston-Salem has been awarded a grant from the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center to convert seven vehicles to use propane as a bi-fuel energy system. The expected result from the alternative fuel portion of this project is to reduce the overall greenhouse gas emissions of each vehicle converted by 30% annually. In addition, the city believes the cleaner burning fuel will not only reduce emissions but reduce the cost of annual operations and maintenance. The total grant amount is \$153,600 and includes a local match of 20%. The proposed amendment appropriates the grant and the local match.

Feasibility Study of a North-South Streetcar Route

- The April Finance Committee meeting included a request for \$50,000 to assist in funding a feasibility study of a north-south streetcar route. The route would create a streetcar connection along the rail corridor that encompasses, in part, WFIQ's Rails to Trails project now known as Long Branch Trail. The original corridor runs from just south of 3rd Street to just south of Smith-Reynolds Airport. The concept under study is whether the streetcar rails can be extended south to connect Winston-Salem State University and west to connect Whitaker Park, BB&T Field and the Wake Forest University campus. The feasibility study is estimated to cost between \$100,000 and \$125,000 and Wake Forest University and WFIQ have agreed to contribute \$25,000 each toward the cost. In addition to the City, funding support is being sought from Winston-Salem State University and the Winston-Salem Foundation. The proposed amendment appropriates \$50,000 in economic development bond funds for this study.

