

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	August 19, 2024
Action Required:	Appropriate grant funds
Presenter:	Lauren Hildebrand, Director of Utilities
Staff Contacts:	Lauren Hildebrand, Director of Utilities Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Title:	Appropriate \$7,120,650.00 from the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure & Safety Modernization (NGDISM) grant program (2nd reading)

Background

The Utilities Department applied for and was awarded \$7,120,650 from the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure & Safety Modernization (NGDISM) grant program for the Low Pressure, Legacy Cast Iron Pipeline Replacement project. No project match is required.

Discussion

The project consists of replacing the last mile of 10-inch cast-iron main line with 4-inch high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe, replacing first generation polyethylene and other legacy plastic pipe with 2-inch HDPE, and removal of 20 gas meters from the interior of various buildings for safer access. The cast iron main has been in service for nearly 100 years and needs to be replaced to increase the safety and reliability of the City of Charlottesville's natural gas infrastructure. The project will take place along West Main Street and University Avenue. The project will replace a total of 13,000 linear feet of cast iron and legacy plastic pipe with high-density polyethylene (HDPE) and polyethylene (PE) pipes.

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

The project supports City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan. It contributes to the Strategic Plan's Outcome Areas of Climate Action and Organizational Excellence.

Community Engagement

The Department of Utilities began a survey of the project area and notified residents and businesses by letter and door hangers that the survey was underway. Outreach will be conducted via door hangers, press releases, and meetings to provide project specific information and to receive public input. These efforts will be to familiarize interested parties with the scope and goal of the project and to minimize disruption to the stakeholders.

Budgetary Impact

No budgetary impact is anticipated because of this appropriation, as no local match is required.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the appropriating of these grant funds.

Alternatives

City Council may elect to not accept the funding from the Department of Transportation; however, this will halt the replacement of the pipeline.

Attachments

1. Utilities DOT PHMSA Resolution