



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Board of Directors

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: September 4, 2015

RE: **Resolution 2015-047**
Federal Legislative Liaison Extension

ACTION REQUESTED

The Board of Directors is asked to approve a contract extension for federal legislative services to Virginia Ainslie from September 11, 2015 to December 11, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 in total expenditure. Please note that the state services contract with McDonald Hopkins will also be extended from September 11, 2015 to December 11, 2015, but this contract extension does not require Board action.

The Finance and Audit Committee recommended these extensions at its August 14th meeting.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

NOACA is currently engaged in a procurement process for new multi-year State & Federal Legislative Services contracts. The scope of services was discussed and developed at the July 10, 2015 External Affairs Committee. The successful respondent/s will work to implement the NOACA legislative agenda in Washington, D.C. and Columbus.

The Finance and Audit Committee recommended that NOACA staff pursue extensions of the current Federal and State Legislative Services contracts while the present procurement of new contracts is being finalized. As they are separate contracts, the federal and state legislative services contracts will be extended individually. It should be noted however, that only the federal contract requires Board approval because it exceeds the State of Ohio's \$50,000 threshold after which Board action is required. The state contract will be presented for information, as the contract including the extension of \$6,000 is below \$50,000.

The scope of services for the federal contract extension with Virginia Ainslie will be to ensure representation during the reauthorization of the current surface transportation bill. The scope of services for the state contract extension with McDonald Hopkins will be to ensure representation of NOACA to the Ohio General Assembly and Governor's Office through the fall legislative session.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The total financial impact to NOACA would be an amount not to exceed \$8,000. Funds allocated in the FY2016 budget to federal legislative services will be the source of funding for this contract extension.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

Virginia Ainslie and McDonald Hopkins will be re-engaged in their respective work on behalf of NOACA upon approval of the respective contract extensions. NOACA anticipates that the preferred candidate/s for State & Federal Legislative Services will be offered at the October External Affairs Committee meeting with the goal of consideration by the Finance and Audit Committee in November and the full Board in December. Multi-year contracts for federal and state legislative services will commence upon final Board approval in December.

GG/ph/2855b

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina, and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, NOACA's Legislative Agenda was adopted by the NOACA Board of Directors in January 2015; and

WHEREAS, NOACA is represented by Virginia Ainslie as its Legislative Liaison in Washington D.C. This contract expired on July 31, 2015; and


WHEREAS, NOACA staff was advised by NOACA Finance and Budget Committee to seek an extension of the existing contract during the procurement process for a new legislative services contract; and

WHEREAS, the Congress is currently debating the provisions of a new surface transportation bill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of 45 principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina that:

Section 1. The Executive Director is authorized to extend Ms. Ainslie from September 11, 2015 through December 7, 2015 at a sum not to exceed \$8,000.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the
Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency Board
of Directors adopted this 11th day of September 2015.

Secretary: 

Date Signed: September 11, 2015

