

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	Resolution Approving the Public Works 2025-2026 Pollocks Branch Trail Bridge Activity, a Minor Amendment to the City's Annual Action Plan, in the Amount of \$55,527.91 in Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") Funds (Previously Approved by Council)
Staff Contact(s):	Anthony Warn, Grants Analyst, Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Presenter:	Anthony Warn, Grants Analyst
Date of Proposed Action:	May 18, 2026

Issue

Staff is seeking to extend the period of performance available to the Department of Public Works for the use of previously awarded CDBG funds to support the completion of design and construction work for the Pollocks Branch Trail Bridge Activity through a new Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the city's Office of Budget & Grants Management and the Department of Public Works.

Background / Rule

City Council previously approved at a public hearing on February 3, 2025, an award of \$55,527.91 in Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") funds to support the development and construction of a pedestrian trail bridge over the Pollocks Branch of the Rivanna River as a way of enhancing the connectivity of the South First Street residential community to adjacent neighborhoods and the beauty of the Rivanna watershed (#R-25-010).

Analysis

On Monday, April 20, 2026, City Council conducted a public hearing to consider a proposal to allocate additional funds to support the completion of the Pollocks Branch Trail Bridge Project, partnership between the city's Departments of Parks & Recreation ("P&R") and Public Works ("PW"). This proposal was moved by Council to appear for a second reading as a consent Agenda item at a public hearing scheduled for May 4, 2026.

This April 20 public hearing explored how the pre-design and Requests for Proposals stages of this project have taken longer than anticipated but are now on track and under the management of the city's Department of Public Works. CDBG program staff have determined that approval of additional time for this project is reasonable and that granting such additional time is likely to bring important benefits to income-qualified City residents and put forth a new funding agreement for these previously awarded funds in the form of a new intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU").

Financial Impact

There is no adverse financial impact to this proposed action, as the funds proposed to be used are non-local funds allocated to the City by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development ("HUD") to support community development and planning activities, and, as such, do not draw from the city's General Fund. Use of these funds as recommended here will serve to address important community needs while at the same time supporting the city's continued eligibility to participate in HUD programs.

Recommendation

Based on the anticipated benefits for Charlottesville community of the proposed activity presented here today, staff recommends that Council approve the proposed MOU as presented here today. As these funds have been previously approved and appropriated by Council for this purpose, no new appropriation of funds is necessary.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

I move that Council approve the RESOLUTION now before us to approve the Public Works 2025-2026 Pollocks Branch Trail Bridge Activity as presented here before us today.

Attachments

1. CDBG PY24+ Pollocks Branch Trail Bridge Extension Resolution
2. CDBG PY24+ PW Trail Bridge Extension MOU (2026-27) DRAFT
3. Council Approval CDBG PY24+ P&R Pollocks Branch Trail Bridge (#R-25-010)