

**CITY OF GAUTIER  
MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Samantha Abell, City Manager  
**From:** Patty Huffman, Grants and Projects Manager  
**Through:** Chandra Nicholson, Interim Director of Economic Development and Planning  
**Date:** July 8, 2013  
**Subject:** Submission of Activation Request to the Mississippi Department of Transportation for the 2013 Safe Routes to School grant funding

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**REQUEST:**

The Economic Development and Planning Department requests City Council approval to authorize City Manager, Samantha Abell to initiate and request activation from the Mississippi Department of Transportation for the 2013 Safe Routes to School grant funding.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Safe Routes to School Program was established as a response to the reduced number of children walking and bicycling to school. This change in the mode of transportation has added to traffic congestion, reduced air quality, and contributed to the decline in children's health. The purpose of this grant funding is to:

- enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing alternative; and
- facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety; and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

**DISCUSSION:**

On May 1, 2013, the City of Gautier was approved for up to \$100,000.00 in Federal Safe Routes to School funds for infrastructure improvements in the vicinity of College Park Elementary School. These funds, along with a required 20% match, make up the total cost of the project. The City has 90 days from the date of the award letter to activate the project. City Council approval is requested to authorize the City Manager to initiate and request activation of the grant. Funding will be used for sidewalk ramps and repairs, crosswalk striping, sidewalk additions in easement areas and around the school, signage, and safety programming.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Economic Development and Planning Department recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to initiate and request activation of the 2013 Safe Routes to School funding for infrastructure and non-infrastructure improvements for College Park Elementary School.

City Council may:

1. Authorize submission of an activation request as described above; or
2. Disapprove submission of an activation request as described above.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

Letter to MDOT Requesting Project Activation

*Mayor*  
*Gordon F. Gallott*

*City of Gautier*  
*Gautier, Mississippi*

*City Manager*  
*Samantha D. Abell*

*City Clerk*  
*Cynthia Russell*

*Council*  
*At Large Mary F. Martin*  
*Ward 1 Johnny Jones*  
*Ward 2 Hurley Ray Guillotte*  
*Ward 3 Casey Vaughan*  
*Ward 4 Charles "Rusty" Anderson*  
*Ward 5 Adam D. Colledge*



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July 17, 2013

David H. Seyfarth, PE, PS  
Special Projects Engineer  
Mississippi Department of Transportation  
16499 #B Highway 49  
Saucier, MS 39574-9740

Re: Activation Request for Safe Routes to School Grant Project- College Park Elementary School  
City of Gautier, Jackson County

Dear Mr. Seyfarth:

On behalf of the City of Gautier, I would like to request that the City of Gautier be allowed to proceed with the activation of the above referenced project for our Safe Routes to School grant funded project in the vicinity of College Park Elementary School located on Ladnier Road. The project involves the following scope of work:

Sidewalk ramps, sidewalk repair, and crosswalk striping on Ladnier Rd.; addition of sidewalks in easement areas; repair or addition of sidewalks in gap areas around the school; and signage.

Attached are the following documents necessary to activate the project:

- 1) A copy of the Gautier City Council minutes authorizing the City Manager to activate this project.
- 2) A vicinity map showing the location of the proposed project and the Functional Classification number.
- 3) A copy of the 2013 Safe Routes to School grant award letter.
- 4) A copy of the certificate from the LPA Process Training and Certification.

Thank you for your consideration of this request to proceed with our project activation. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Samantha D. Abell, City Manager

Enclosures