

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-226
JUNE 3, 1996 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
FUNDING FOR 63RD STREET WIDENING FROM I-235 TO UNIVERSITY AVENUE	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	HAROLD E. SMITH CITY ENGINEER

SYNOPSIS —

On the Council agenda for June 3, 1996 is a roll call approving plans and specifications and setting a date for a public hearing (June 17, 1996) on the widening of 63rd Street from I-235 to University Avenue. On June 4, 1996, the IDOT will be taking bids on this project. On June 17, 1996, the Council will review bids received by the IDOT and concur in the award of the contract.

The total estimated cost for this project is \$4,800,000. The City of Des Moines' share of the total project is estimated to be \$572,000, and the City of Windsor Heights' share is estimated to be \$600,000. In addition, the Des Moines Water Works is contributing approximately \$230,000 for construction of new water mains in conjunction with the project.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Funding for this project is identified in the adopted CIP in the amount of \$428,000 (\$41,000 expended through 1994-95, \$110,000 in 1995-96, and \$277,000 in 1996-97), with \$144,000 to be added in the 1996-1997 bond sale to meet the City obligation based on the final estimate of cost. The general obligation bonds for 1996-97 have not yet been sold, and by approving the 63rd Street Widening project, the Council is, in effect, committing to the issue of some general obligation bonds in an amount sufficient to pay for the costs incurred for this project. The Council will be asked to issue general obligation bonds for fiscal 1997 in September 1996. This bond issue would be sized to include the 63rd Street Widening Project, as well as other projects that are included in the CIP.

RECOMMENDATION —

I recommend that Council proceed with the 63rd Street Widening Project. However, it is essential that the City establish a process wherein funds are available at the time Council proceeds with bids for capital projects. In effect, this will require that bonds be sold, or that other funding sources be firmly in place before the City incurs financial obligations for a capital project. It is my intention to ask Council to fully implement this policy beginning with the new CIP and an accompanying bond issue in September of 1996. However, until this new policy is implemented, it will be necessary for the Council to consider several projects included in the current CIP for which bonds have not yet been issued.

BACKGROUND —

On February 5, 1996, by Roll Call No. 96-490, the City Council approved a Preconstruction Project Agreement between the City of Des Moines, the City of Windsor Heights, and the IDOT for reconstruction of the intersection of 63rd Street (Iowa 28) and University Avenue to provide designated left-turn storage lanes and protected signal phasing. Also included in the agreement is the linear

improvement of 63rd Street to a four-lane facility from I-235 to University Avenue. This Preconstruction Project Agreement specifically addresses cost-sharing on the project.

Also on February 5, 1996, by Roll Call No. 96-489, the City Council approved a joint public service agreement between the City of Des Moines and the City of Windsor Heights for the widening of 63rd Street from I-235 to University Avenue. Under this agreement, the City of Des Moines would provide engineering services which would include the preparation of the plans and specifications, acquisition of right-of-way, and the contractual administration, including construction inspection of this project. The agreement further provides that all costs would be shared proportionately on the project.

The IDOT will be receiving bids on this project on June 4, 1996. If the Council concurs in award of this contract at its meeting on June 17, 1996, construction could start in early July. It is anticipated that construction of 63rd Street south of University Avenue will be completed in 1996, but the widening of 63rd Street north of University would not be completed until July of 1997.