

**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 97-533
NOVEMBER 3, 1997 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:

**APPLICATION TO IDOT FOR U-STEP
FUNDING FOR TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND
MINOR WIDENING AT SE 14TH STREET
AND DIEHL AVENUE**

SUBMITTED BY:

**HAROLD SMITH
CITY ENGINEER**

SYNOPSIS –

On the November 3, 1997 City Council agenda is a roll call authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for Urban-State Traffic Engineering Program (U-STEP) funding for traffic signals at Southeast Fourteenth Street and Diehl Avenue, including minor widening on both streets. The project cost is estimated to be \$285,000. IDOT funding will be requested in the amount of \$132,000.

FISCAL IMPACT –

City Cost: \$153,000 (Future CIP)
IDOT Cost: \$132,000
Total Cost: \$285,000

RECOMMENDATION –

Approval.

BACKGROUND –

A traffic study was conducted by the Traffic and Transportation Division for the intersection of Southeast Fourteenth Street and Diehl Avenue based on (1) ongoing citizen requests for signals at this location, and (2) the development of the new Menard' s store immediately to the south of this intersection. A copy of this study is attached to the roll call.

The City' s review of the traffic signal warrants for this intersection indicates that both Warrant

No. 2 (Interruption of Continuous Flow) and Warrant No. 8 (Combination of Warrants) are met for the required eight hours, and traffic signals should be installed at this intersection. Staff has received approval from IDOT to install temporary signals, which are scheduled to be in operation in early November 1997.

Staff proposes to submit an application to IDOT for U-STEP funding for a project to: (1) install permanent traffic signals at this location, (2) widen the west approach on Diehl Avenue to provide a left-turning lane at Southeast Fourteenth Street, and (3) install a third lane, southbound, on Southeast Fourteenth Street from Diehl south to the Menard' s development site. The total right-of-way and construction cost is estimated to be \$240,000, with IDOT providing 55 percent of these costs, estimated to be \$132,000. The total project cost, including design and project administration, is \$285,000.