

**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 97-603
DECEMBER 22, 1997 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:

INTER-URBAN TRAIL GRANT SUBMITTAL

SUBMITTED BY:

**DONALD TRIPP
PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR**

SYNOPSIS –

Resolution authorizing staff to submit a grant application to the State of Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT), State Recreational Trails Fund, for the Inter-Urban Trail project. The final phase of trail development completes a trail connection from Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway to the John Pat Dorrian Trail over the Des Moines River.

FISCAL IMPACT –

Total cost of the trail project is estimated at \$450,000. According to the grant application, the City is requesting a grant in the amount of \$193,024. The City's matching grant portion of \$64,341 will be requested in the 1998-1999 Capital Improvement Program. Remaining funds (\$192,635) will come from the Intermodal Surface & Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) fund.

RECOMMENDATION –

Adopt and proceed with submitting a grant application to IDOT.

BACKGROUND –

On September 23, 1996, by Roll Call No. 96-3347, the City Council approved a modification to an ISTEA grant for the Inter-Urban Trail project. This request was written to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to be considered by IDOT. Due to a cost increase, based on the Engineer's cost estimate, and the lack of available ISTEA funding, a portion of the trail project between ML King, Jr. Parkway and the John Pat Dorrian Trail was deleted from the original proposed project. However, Council concurred that additional funding would be pursued to complete the entire length of the trail.

On December 16, 1997, by Roll Call No. 96-4183, the City Council authorized staff to proceed with submitting a grant application to IDOT to assist with funding the second phase of the Inter-Urban Trail. The City was unsuccessful in this attempt, although the project ranked number four out of fourteen applications that were submitted. Since that time, the City has received additional funding from the Surface Transportation Program by the MPO for completion of the Inter-Urban Trail project.

The final connection of the proposed Inter-Urban Trail project is approximately 3/4 miles in length from ML King, Jr. Parkway to the east side of the Des Moines River, which includes restoration of a railroad bridge over the Des Moines River, south of Euclid Avenue. The following is a breakdown of shared costs if the grant application to IDOT is successful:

Organization	Amount	Percent of Project
IDOT	\$193,024	43
ISTEA	192,635	43
City of Des Moines	64,341	14

Phase I of the Inter-Urban Trail is 90 percent completed and the only remaining items include signage and site restoration, which will conclude next spring. Design for Phase II is currently underway to satisfy the ISTEA funding portion of the project. However, funding to complete the final phase of the Inter-Urban Trail is not available at this time, and the project is dependent upon receipt of the IDOT grant in order to begin construction during the fall of 1998.