



**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**00-448**

**SYNOPSIS -**

**AGENDA**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2000

**SUBJECT:**

STATEWIDE  
TRANSPORTATION  
ENHANCEMENT  
PROGRAM GRANT

Approve a Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program Grant application to the Iowa Department of Transportation for the construction of three separate segments of the American Discovery Trail pedestrian/bikeway connecting Des Moines' trail system with its southern and western suburbs. The first trail segment would run from Grand Avenue and 63rd Street to North Valley Drive. The second would start at the southern end of the levee trail east of the intersection of Railroad Avenue and 63rd Street and end at the intersection of the Bill Riley Trail and Walnut Creek. The third would begin at the Bill Riley Trail Bridge on the Raccoon River in Waterworks Park and end at the Kruidenier Trail at the entrance to Grays Lake Park.

**TYPE:**

**FISCAL IMPACT- \$257,000**

**RESOLUTION**  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

A Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program grant provides 70 percent of the total project cost. Agencies are required to match that amount with 30 percent of the total project cost. The total cost of the American Discovery Trail project is estimated at \$1,190,000. The amount requested from the State is \$833,000. The city will be required to match the grant with \$257,000. All City matching funds have been previously budgeted for the bike trails Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

**SUBMITTED BY:**

DONALD M. TRIPP  
DEPARTMENT  
DIRECTOR

A Recreation Enhancement and Protection (REAP) trails grant application was approved in August by the City Council requesting \$200,000 from the State of Iowa for construction of the Grand Avenue to North Valley Drive segment mentioned above. If approved by the state, the City has the option to accept that grant for \$200,000 (matched by \$200,000 of City funds) or reject it should this Statewide Enhancement grant application also be approved. The 70 percent 30 percent match of this Statewide Enhancement grant would require fewer City funds to accomplish the same amount of trail construction if approved.

## **RECOMMENDATION -**

### **Approval.**

## **BACKGROUND -**

Annually, the State of Iowa appropriates funds to the Department of Transportation to assist cities, counties and other qualified organizations in the construction of trails/bikeways among other public park and recreation facilities and sites. For FY2002, approximately \$1.4 million has been appropriated for trail development.

Staff has evaluated potential projects that qualify for funding in the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program. It has chosen the American Discovery Trail (ADT) Pedestrian/Bikeway, a national trail project running from coast to coast across America, as the most worthwhile project for the following reasons: 1) The Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program grant guidelines rank pedestrian/bikeway trail construction projects high in its evaluation process; 2) The Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program grant guidelines rank completion of the trail segments of the ADT very high in the evaluation process; and 3) The completion of these three short segments of the ADT provide for the connection of several trails within Des Moines as well as its suburbs to the south and west.