

Meeting Agendas/Info

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:	ITEM _____
01-081	OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA
AGENDA: FEBRUARY 12, 2001	SYNOPSIS - The Indianola Connector Project requires a portion of Columbus Park be discontinued as parkland and dedicated for use as street right-of-way for Indianola Avenue.
SUBJECT: INDIANOLA CONNECTOR PROJECT	FISCAL IMPACT - None.
TYPE: <u>RESOLUTION</u> ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	RECOMMENDATION - Approval.
SUBMITTED BY: DONALD TRIPP PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR	BACKGROUND - On January 23, 2001, the Park and Recreation Board (Resolution No. 01-119) received and filed information regarding the transfer of a portion of Columbus Park to be used as part of the Indianola Connector Project. The Park and Recreation Board unanimously supported the action. The Indianola Avenue Connector Project will provide for construction of a four-lane roadway with raised medians and left turn lanes at major intersections extending diagonally from the S.W. 3rd Street Bridge over the Raccoon River to Indianola Avenue, 400 feet southeast of S.E. 1st Street and would include reconfiguration of the S.E. 1st Street and Indianola Avenue intersections. This project will greatly improve access into the downtown area from the southeast quadrant of the city. An application for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 has already been approved for this project and additional funding is being requested from the Federal

Highway Administration (FHWA).

On September 22, 1997, by Roll Call No. 97-3210, and August 24, 1998, by Roll Call No. 98-2667, City Council authorized the submittal of proposals to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the Indianola Avenue Connector. Subsequently, IDOT reviewed these applications and determined that the proposed project was eligible for CMAQ funding.

The project agreement with IDOT provides for 80 percent of right-of-way and construction costs up to a maximum of \$4,000,000 to be provided from CMAQ funding from Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA) funds, 20 percent of right-of-way and construction costs (\$1,000,000); and an estimated \$500,000 for design and construction inspection costs will be paid by the City from the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget for the Indianola Avenue Connector.

Right-of-way acquisition is nearing completion, and construction is scheduled for early this calendar year.

Although this is a diminishment of the size of Columbus Park, this alternative has the greatest support of the neighborhood (as communicated by the Traffic and Transportation Division). Other alternatives included a route which would have caused St. Anthony's School to relocate.