

**Meeting Agendas/Info**

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

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

**01-436**

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

**AGENDA:**

AUGUST 20, 2001

**SUBJECT:**

IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION  
TRAFFIC SAFETY  
FUND  
APPLICATIONS

**SYNOPSIS -**

The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) has an annual program to provide funds for Traffic Safety Fund (TSF) Improvements. The deadline for this year's applications is August 15, 2001, with Council authorization to be received by IDOT no later than September 4, 2001. Staff has reviewed various high-accident locations and has developed four projects for submittal: Park Avenue Widening project between SW 42nd and SW 56th Streets; 42nd Street lane restriping and traffic signal improvements at Ingersoll and Grand Avenues; Ingersoll Avenue lane restriping and traffic signal improvements at 28th, 31st, and 35th Streets; and the 30th Street/Hickman Road Intersection Traffic Signal Upgrade.

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.  
CITY ENGINEER

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

<b>1. Park Avenue Widening between 42nd and 56th Streets:</b>	
Traffic Safety Funds Requested	\$ 180,000
Federal STP Funds	1,800,000
City Funds	<u>1,720,000</u>
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$3,700,000</b>
<b>2. 42nd Street lane restriping and traffic signal improvements at Ingersoll and Grand Avenues:</b>	
Traffic Safety Funds	\$250,000
City Funds (Design/Inspection)	<u>25,000</u>
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>

3. Ingersoll Avenue lane restriping and traffic signal improvements at 28th, 31st, and 35th Streets:

Traffic Safety Funds	\$240,000
City Funds (Design/Inspection)	<u>25,000</u>
Total Project Cost	\$265,000

4. 30th Street/Hickman Road Traffic Signal Upgrade:

Traffic Safety Funds	\$ 75,000
City Funds (Construction)	75,000
City Funds (Design/Inspection)	<u>15,000</u>
Total Project Cost	\$165,000

The Park Avenue Project is funded in the current Capitol Improvements Program. For the remaining projects, City funding would be requested through a future Capital Improvement Program if these projects are approved by IDOT.

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Approval and authorization to submit an application to IDOT for Traffic Safety Fund for these four projects.**

**BACKGROUND -**

IDOT implemented an annual program beginning in 1988 to provide for traffic safety improvements. These improvements may include roadway construction projects to correct high-accident locations, upgrading of obsolete traffic control devices to comply with the requirements of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, or traffic studies to determine how to correct a safety problem.

Since the program began, Des Moines has been successful in receiving approval of 37 projects and approximately \$7.8 million. A

list of the projects approved is attached, which has included several major intersection improvements, traffic signal upgrades, and other safety projects. Applications are currently being accepted until August 15, 2001, for the next programming cycle. Staff has reviewed the accident history at various locations, and recommends that the following projects be submitted for the next funding cycle.

### **1. Park Avenue Widening between 42nd and 56th Streets**

This project is currently in the Capitol Improvements Program, and consists of widening Park Avenue between SW 42nd and SW 56th Streets to provide for a 12-foot center left-turning lane. Between SW 42nd Street and Valley Drive, the additional lane would be constructed on the north side of the existing roadway. This would provide for one-lane traffic in each direction, along with a center lane for left turns. Between Valley Drive and SW 56th Street, the existing pavement would be removed and a new roadway constructed. This segment would provide for one-lane traffic in each direction separated by a median, with left-turn lanes at major driveways. The cross-section of the section west of Valley Drive would be designed so that it could be expanded to a four-lane, divided, roadway in the future.

The intersection of Valley Drive/SW 46th Street at Park Avenue would be realigned so that it could be used as a portion of the new Southwest Connector in the future. This new location would be signalized, and would include minor relocation of the existing Great Western Multipurpose Trail so that the trail users would cross Park Avenue at this new signal.

The estimated project cost for this improvement is \$3.7 million. Federal Surface Transportation Program funding has been previously approved in the amount of \$1.8 million. Traffic Safety Funding of \$180,000 is requested.

### **2. 42nd Street Lane Restriping and Traffic Signal Improvements at Ingersoll and Grand Avenues**

The proposed project consists of improvements at two intersections along the 42nd Street corridor south of I-235. At Ingersoll Avenue, the existing pavement on Ingersoll would be restriped to provide east-west left-turn lanes, and the traffic signals would be upgraded to include left-turn phasing and overhead signal indications for all directions. At Grand Avenue, the signals would be upgraded to provide peak-direction, left-turn phases on Grand Avenue, along with a southbound left-turn phase for 42nd Street. The estimated

construction cost for this project is \$250,000, which will be requested from Traffic Safety Funds.

### **3. Ingersoll Avenue Lane Restriping and Traffic Signal Improvements at 28th, 31st, and 35th Streets**

The proposed project consists of improvements at the three signalized intersections along the Ingersoll Avenue corridor between 28th and 35th Streets. The pavement on Ingersoll Avenue approaching each of these intersections would be restriped to provide 100-foot long, east-west left-turn lanes, and the traffic signals would be upgraded to include left-turn phasing for Ingersoll, along with a southbound left-turn phase for 31st Street, and overhead signal indications for all approaches. The estimated construction cost for this project is \$240,000, which will be requested from Traffic Safety Funds.

### **4. 30th Street/Hickman Road Traffic Signal Upgrade**

This project would involve replacement of the existing traffic signals with new overhead mast-arm mounted signals. Existing median-mounted poles would be eliminated. The project would request "Traffic Control Device" funds from the Traffic Safety Fund Program. These funds will pay for material costs, which are estimated to be \$75,000.

Attachment

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