

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

02-398

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

JULY 22, 2002

SUBJECT:

DESIGN CONCEPT
AND RIGHT-OF-
WAY ACQUISITION -
S.W. 9TH STREET AT
PORTER AVENUE
INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENTS

Based upon input from a public information meeting, the City Engineer recommends construction of a left turn lane on Porter Avenue west of S.W. 9th Street, which was not included in the preliminary design or in the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) agreements for the S.W. 9th Street at Porter Avenue Intersection Improvements project. Staff requests City Council approval of the revised design concept, and authorization to revise IDOT funding agreements to proceed with final design and right-of-way acquisition.

FISCAL IMPACT -

TYPE:

Funding for the construction cost is shown in the current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget, page STR-45, S.W. 9th Street at Porter Avenue. This project includes 90 percent IDOT funding for right-of-way and eligible construction items.

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

The total obligation for the City for the entire project, based on preliminary cost estimates, is estimated at \$462,500.

RECOMMENDATION -

SUBMITTED BY:

JEB E. BREWER, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

Approval of the preliminary design concept and authorization to proceed with final design and right-of-way acquisition.

BACKGROUND -

For many years, the intersection of S.W. 9th Street at Porter Avenue has been a high accident rate intersection. This location was ranked by IDOT as the highest accident intersection statewide, based on crash data between 1995-1999.

On November 6, 2000, by Roll Call No. 00-4182, an agreement was

approved between the City of Des Moines and IDOT for S.W. 9th Street at Porter Avenue Intersection Improvements. The project will include widening of S.W. 9th Street from approximately Kenyon Avenue to Wall Avenue. This widening will provide for 150 foot long left turn bays. New traffic signals will also be included as part of the intersection reconstruction. The total project cost, including right-of-way acquisition, is estimated to be \$1,925,000.

On June 24, 2002, the City Engineer presented a preliminary design to affected property owners at a public information meeting. After review of property owners' comments and concerns, staff has revised the preliminary design to include a left turn lane on Porter Avenue west of S.W. 9th Street. This left turn lane will relieve traffic congestion on Porter Avenue caused by Kurtz School, South Side Library and Nahas Aquatic Center. Construction of this turn lane is estimated at \$115,916. Engineering staff will work with IDOT to modify the funding agreement to include this left turn lane or to secure other funding for this work if IDOT funds are not available. The project is now ready to proceed with final design and right-of-way acquisition.

IDOT prepared an agreement for the funding which was approved by City Council on November 6, 2000, by Roll Call No. 00-4182. The City will provide preliminary survey, design, construction inspection, and right-of-way acquisition for this project. The City will be responsible for 10 percent of the construction and right-of-way acquisition costs and 100 percent of design and inspection costs. The total obligation for the City, based on preliminary cost estimates, is \$462,500.

The project will require the acquisition of 16 strip fee takings on both sides of S.W. 9th Street from Kenyon Avenue to Wall Avenue, and on both sides of Porter Avenue from S.W. 9th Street to approximately 250 feet west of S.W. 9th Street. Additionally, temporary construction easements will be required from all of the properties where strip fee takings are required, plus one additional property, for a total of 17 temporary easements. These temporary easements are required to allow for changes to private property to meet the new street geometrics.

Attached to the Roll Call are the public information meeting notice, meeting minutes, and a plan of the proposed left turn lane on Porter Avenue west of S.W. 9th Street.
