



Agenda Item:

7

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 08/09/2004

Communication

No.: 04-394

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call

No.:

Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer
Donald M. Tripp, Park and Recreation Director

SUBJECT—

Approving & authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement for the Union Railway Bridge Renovation

SYNOPSIS—

The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) has proposed an agreement between the City of Des Moines and the IDOT for the Union Railway Bridge Renovation. This project includes painting the steel structure and construction of a new walkway surface and railing across the abandoned railroad structure south of Court Avenue.

FISCAL IMPACT—

The total estimated project cost is currently \$3.2 million. The agreement provides \$668,420 in Transportation Enhancement funds at 70% Federal participation and \$1,000,000 in Federal Demonstration Program funds. The balance of funds (\$1,531,580) will be donated by Principal Financial as part of their \$10 million commitment to the Principal Riverwalk.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

By Roll Call 03-2212 on September 22, 2003, City Council approved the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program grant application for this project. The application was favorably received and approved by IDOT for funding. Additionally, Riverwalk received a \$1 million earmark from Congress in the Federal Fiscal Year 2004 appropriations.

This project will provide the southern end of the Principal Riverwalk 1.2 mile loop and connect the Riverpoint Trail to the Pat Dorrian Trail. The railroad bridge will be renovated to be a multi-use recreational trail and be a part of the American Discovery Trail.

Principal Financial has proceeded with the design of this project as part of Riverwalk. Phase 1 will be done as a private construction contract and includes structural repair, lead paint removal, removal of railroad ties and application of primer to all existing steel in preparation for the IDOT project. The current project schedule includes beginning Phase 1 in September 2004.

IDOT will construct Phase 2 of the project. Phase 2 includes providing structural components to allow construction of the new pedestrian walkway, cantilevered overlook at mid-span over the Des Moines River, apply new finish coats of paint, lighting, railing and connections to existing pathways and streets. This project is on the IDOT bid-letting schedule for January 2005. Construction will be complete by the end of 2005.