



Agenda Item:

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## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 03/07/05  
No.: 05-096  
Agenda Item Type: Resolution  
No.:

Communication

Roll Call

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 construction of a new walkway surface and railing across the abandoned railroad structure south of Court Avenue.

### FISCAL IMPACT—

The total estimated construction cost for Phase 2 is currently \$2,427,313 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 (\$758,893) 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 is currently underway as a private construction contract that includes structural repair, lead paint removal, removal of railroad ties and painting all existing steel in preparation for the IDOT project. Phase 1 is scheduled to be complete in June 2005, prior to the beginning of the IDOT project.

The IDOT project 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, painting all new steel, lighting, railing and connections to existing pathways and streets. This project is on the IDOT letting schedule for May 17, 2005. Construction is expected to be complete by August 2006.

Principal has provided a letter describing their commitment to fund this project. A separate agreement will be executed with Principal before the project is let. The agreement will include Principal's responsibility for providing the local contribution required for the project and the consultant construction phase services that satisfy IDOT requirements.