



**Council  
Communication**  
Office of the City Manager

Date

May 22, 2006

Agenda Item No. 25

Roll Call No. 06-

Communication No. 06-300

Submitted by: Larry D. Hulse, Community  
Development Director

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approval to provide funding for a Conceptual Design Plan for Streetscape and Beautification Improvements in the Drake Area.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval to provide \$10,000 from the Economic Development Enterprise Account to partially fund a Conceptual Design Plan for the Drake Area Streetscape and Beautification Project. Drake University, the Drake Business Association, as well as the Drake Neighborhood Association will also contribute to jointly fund this plan.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: \$10,000

Funding Source: FY 2006-07 Operating Budget, Economic Development Enterprise Fund, SP743, CMO980717, page 350.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Drake University, the Drake Business Association and the Drake Neighborhood Association are pursuing a possible streetscape project to better integrate the University with the Drake neighborhood and surrounding commercial areas. Members from these three organizations along with City staff from the Office of Economic Development and Community Development have formed a committee to oversee the planning efforts. This committee has proposed that a professional design firm be hired to prepare a conceptual design plan for streetscape improvements in order to generate public and private interest in the project. The cost for this professional service has been estimated at approximately \$25,000.

In order to fund the development of a conceptual design plan for streetscape improvements, Drake University has agreed to commit \$10,000, the Drake Business Association has agreed to commit \$2,500 and the Drake Neighborhood Association will be asking their board to contribute \$2,500. The City Manager has recommended that the City contribute \$10,000 from the Economic Development Enterprise Account to assist in funding this effort.

If approved, City staff would prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit bids from qualified design firms to create the conceptual design plan for streetscape improvements. The RFP would require that the consultant conduct public input sessions, recommend suitable intersections and corridors for streetscape improvements, suggest appropriate streetscape elements, provide conceptual design drawings of streetscape improvements, offer cost estimates for construction, operation and maintenance expenses, in addition to other appropriate services. The committee would like to see a design firm hired and the planning process initiated this summer with the conceptual design plan prepared this fall.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

Date:

Roll Call Number:

Action:

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

Date:

Roll Call Number:

Action:

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Following the RFP process a recommendation on the selection of a design firm will be brought back to City Council for consideration and approval.