



**Council  
Communication**  
Office of the City Manager

**Date**

March 12, 2007

**Agenda Item No.** 16  
**Roll Call No.** 07-  
**Communication No.** 07-132  
**Submitted by:** **Jeb E. Brewer, P.E.,**  
**City Engineer**

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Authorization to proceed with acquisition of the necessary right-of-way and easements for the 2006 Pedestrian Crossing Control Improvements Project by gift, negotiation, or condemnation.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend authorization to acquire necessary right-of-way and easements for the above project. This action is required by Iowa law before the City can initiate the right-of-way acquisition process under eminent domain.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: \$2,500

Funding Source: 2006-07 CIP, Traffic Control Improvements, Page 5, City-wide Signals, Channelization, and School Crossing Protection Program, TFC091, (\$75,000 Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Traffic Safety Fund Improvement Program).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

In July of 2005, City Council authorized that an application be submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for "Midblock Pedestrian Crossing Enhancements". The IDOT has approved \$75,000 for this project. The remaining costs, including design, construction, and project administration, are to be funded by the City. The total City cost is estimated to be \$90,000 for the following traffic control improvements:

University Avenue at 27<sup>th</sup> Street (Drake University), University Avenue at 4<sup>th</sup> Street (Mercy Hospital) and East Grand Avenue at East 13<sup>th</sup> Street (State Capitol Complex) will involve installation of push-button activated pedestrian warning signs, similar to the City's current installation on University Avenue at 26<sup>th</sup> Street. The fourth location, on University east of 29<sup>th</sup> Street (Drake University), will consist of a mid-block pedestrian-actuated traffic signal, along with relocation of the existing Drake parking lot driveway to a point approximately 170 feet east of the new signal location.

Several small permanent and temporary easements will need to be acquired from the adjoining properties in order to construct these projects. These easements should have little impact on the adjoining property owners and the cost of acquisition should be minimal.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: May 22, 2006

Roll Call Number: 06-978

Action: Authorizing execution of Iowa Department of Transportation Project Agreement to upgrade four existing pedestrian crossing locations: (1) University Avenue, east of 29<sup>th</sup> Street, (2) University Avenue at 27<sup>th</sup> Street, (3) University Avenue at 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and (4) Grand Avenue at E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street. ([Council Communication No. 06-296](#)) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

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

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**