



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date	September 8, 2008
------	-------------------

Agenda Item No.	50
Roll Call No.	<u>08-</u>
Communication No.	<u>08-553</u>
Submitted by:	Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Ratify and confirm the City Manager's action to submit Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) Fund Applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation--(1) S.W. 9th Street Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade (\$650,000), and (2) East Euclid Avenue / Hubbell Avenue Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade (\$300,000).

SYNOPSIS:

This action would ratify two applications for submittal to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) funding. The goal of the ICAAP is to reduce congestion and thereby improve air quality. The two projects recommended by staff are:

- (1) S.W. 9th Street Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade, and
- (2) East Euclid Avenue/Hubbell Avenue Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$320,000

The estimated construction cost for the S.W. 9th Street Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade project is \$650,000. \$520,000 of ICAAP funding is being requested for this project. The City's share would be 20 percent, or \$130,000. In addition, the City would be responsible for project related design/inspection services estimated at \$90,000.

The estimated construction cost for the East Euclid Avenue/Hubbell Avenue Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade project is \$300,000. \$240,000 of ICAAP funding is being requested for this project. The City's share would be 20 percent, or \$60,000. In addition, the City would be responsible for project related design/inspection services estimated at \$40,000.

Funding Source: Depending on receipt of IDOT funding grants, City matching funding would be programmed in future CIP budgets.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program that directs Federal transportation funds for projects to reduce congestion and pollution. The IDOT has established an Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP), including guidelines on how to prioritize the disbursement of these funds, which are approximately \$4.7 million annually statewide. Their program is implemented through a statewide competitive application

procedure that evaluates each proposed project based on reducing congestion and pollution, and thereby maintaining the clean air quality that Iowa now enjoys.

The types of projects that are eligible for this funding include traffic flow improvements, shared-ride services, transit improvements, pedestrian and bicycle programs, and others.

The deadline was August 22, 2008, for this year's project applications to be submitted through the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to the IDOT. Staff submitted these two applications to the MPO prior to this date, pending confirmation by City Council. The MPO needs early submission of the application packages in order to present the projects to the MPO Policy Committee at its September meeting.

The City has previously received funding for a number of projects through this program, including Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway (\$5,500,000); the Downtown Traffic Signal System (\$3,000,000); and East 14th and Hull Intersection Improvements (\$750,000).

Staff recommends that the City Council ratify and confirm the City Manager's action to submit applications through the MPO on to the IDOT for ICAAP funds for the following projects:

1. S.W. 9th Street Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade: This project will replace and extend the current signal interconnect system along S.W. 9th Street between Bell Avenue and Army Post Road with a fiber optic system, connecting the traffic signals along this arterial street directly with the City's traffic operations center. Several traffic observation cameras would also be incorporated into the project to monitor traffic flows along this heavily traveled corridor. The estimated project construction cost is \$650,000, of which \$520,000 of ICAAP funding is being requested.
2. East Euclid Avenue / Hubbell Avenue Traffic Signal Interconnect Upgrade: This project will replace and extend the current signal interconnect system along East Euclid / Hubbell Avenues between East 25th Street and East 38th Street with a fiber optic system, connecting the traffic signals along this arterial street directly with the City's traffic operations center. Several traffic observation cameras would also be incorporated into the project to monitor traffic flows along this heavily traveled corridor. The estimated project construction cost is \$300,000, of which \$240,000 of ICAAP funding is being requested.

If approved, both projects would be scheduled for construction in 2010.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approval of project agreements with IDOT.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.