



Council
Communication
Office of the City Manager

Date

September 22, 2008

Agenda Item No. 7
Roll Call No. 08-
Communication No. 08-569
Submitted by: **Jeb E. Brewer, P.E.**
City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement for E. Indianola Avenue Widening – S.E. 14th Street to S.E. 16th Court.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend Council approval of Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Agreement No. 2009-E-006 for Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) and Surface Transportation Program (STP) project funding for E. Indianola Avenue Widening – S.E. 14th Street to S.E. 16th Court. This project is the first phase of the E. Indianola Avenue Widening project, which will reconstruct E. Indianola Avenue to increase traffic capacity, improve safety, and provide pedestrian and bicycle accommodations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$4,150,000

Funding Source: Various funding sources as follows:

- \$200,000 Iowa DOT Traffic Safety Improvement Funds
- \$500,000 Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program Funds
- \$2,700,000 Federal Surface Transportation Program Funds
- \$750,000 2008-09 CIP, Page Street-14, East Indianola Avenue Widening – S.E. 14th to Army Post Road, STR213, G.O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On October 8, 2007, by Roll Call No. 07-1994, the City Council approved the East Indianola Avenue Corridor Study. On March 10, 2008, by Roll Call No. 08-435, the City Council approved the design concept for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on the East Indianola Avenue Widening – S.E. 14th Street to Army Post Road project.

East Indianola Avenue from S.E. 14th Street to E. Army Post Road is intended to be reconstructed as a “complete street” design. A “complete street” design includes accommodation for not only vehicular traffic, but also mass transit, pedestrians, commuter and recreational bicyclists, and other recreational users. Providing facilities for all users helps reduce the number of single-occupant vehicles using the roadway, and also encourages alternative commuting options and recreational activities. The bicycle features in particular are an important part of the City’s effort to gain recognition as a bike friendly community.

The design concept included a 4-foot sidewalk on the east side of the roadway and an 8-foot multi-purpose trail (sidepath) on the west side. Both the sidewalk and sidepath will provide a safe route for students walking or biking to either Jackson Elementary School or to Weeks Middle School at Indianola Avenue & Park Avenue. The 8-foot sidepath will also provide a continuous connection to the 10' trail through Ewing Park, and will accommodate pedestrians, recreational bikers, and in-line skaters.

From S.E. 14th Street to Ewing Park, the proximity of existing homes and the limited available right-of-way width make a “complete street” design much more challenging. Two traffic lanes in each direction are still required to handle the anticipated traffic. A raised median will not be included in this section, but a two-way left-turn lane will be provided from Jackson Elementary School to Ewing Park. From Evergreen Avenue to Jackson Elementary School, this center turn lane will not be included in order to minimize the total roadway width and the impacts to adjacent homes and businesses. From Evergreen Avenue north to S.E. 14th Street, turn lanes will again be provided to accommodate the heavy turning traffic.

The E. Indianola Avenue Widening from S.E. 14th Street to S.E. 16th Court project will begin construction in 2009 and has an estimated cost of \$4,150,000 that will be funded from the following sources:

Traffic Safety Improvement Program	\$200,000
Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program	\$500,000
MPO Surface Transportation Program	\$2,700,000
G.O. Bonds	\$750,000

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: August 25, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1487

Action: Approving Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement for S.E. 14th Street and E. Indianola Avenue Intersection Improvements. (Council Communication No. 08-509) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

Date: March 10, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-435

Action: E. Indianola Avenue Widening – SE 14th Street to Army Post Road Design Concept from public input meeting. (Council Communication No. 08-115) Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried **7-0**.

Date: August 6, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-1486

Action: Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) Fund Applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for Merle Hay Road and Urbandale Avenue Intersection Improvements, and SE 14th Street and East Indianola Avenue Intersection Improvements. (Council Communication No. 07-477) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: July 23, 2007

Roll Call Number: 07-1386

Action: Approving Traffic Safety Fund Applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation.
(Council Communication No. 07-446) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Normal actions for award of the construction contract for the work.

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