



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

June 8, 2009

Agenda Item No. 69
Roll Call No. 09-
Communication No. 09-364
Submitted by: **Jeb E. Brewer, P.E.**
City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on Waveland Trail Phase 1 from the Walnut Creek Trail to 56th Street: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as Elder Corporation, Jared R. Elder II, President, \$273,999.99.

SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to allow for public input on the Waveland Trail Phase 1 from the Walnut Creek Trail to 56th Street and take the necessary actions as required by Iowa Code to authorize a contract for construction of the proposed project. This project provides for the construction of a 10' wide trail from the existing Walnut Creek Trail east of 63rd Street and north of Grand Avenue to 56th Street at the I-235 interchange. The trail follows a northeasterly route along the east side of the publicly-owned greenway to Pleasant Drive, where it will pass under the new bridge, which is currently under construction. The proposed trail will connect many of Des Moines' west-side neighborhoods to the Central Iowa Trail System.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$273,999.99 Construction Contract (\$330,000 City Engineer's Estimate)

Funding Source: 2009-2010 CIP, Page Park-22, Recreation Trails, PKS045, Being: 80% of eligible construction costs (\$150,000.00 maximum) in Federal Surface Transportation Program - Transportation Enhancement Funds and \$123,999.99 in City G. O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Waveland Trail will be the next trail constructed in the City of Des Moines. This multi-phased trail will connect many of Des Moines' west-side neighborhoods to the Central Iowa Trail System. The Waveland Trail - Phase I route was approved by the City Council on March 24, 2008, and starts at the Walnut Creek Trail east of 63rd Street and north of Grand Avenue. The trail follows a northeasterly route along the east side of what is commonly known as Gulf/Cummins Creek along the publicly owned greenway to Pleasant Drive, where it passes under the bridge, which is currently under construction. The bridge has been designed to coordinate with the trail and will allow adequate clearance for the trail to pass beneath it.

On the north side of the bridge, the route enters onto private property at 5833 Pleasant Drive, continuing easterly on a route parallel to Interstate 235 (I-235) along the north edge of this property to the 56th Street and I-235 interchange. This trail route minimizes the amount of private property needed for the trail. In

addition, the proposed alignment on the east side of the creek eliminates the need to construct a bridge across the creek and allows for minimal additional disturbance to the environment as the greenway between Pleasant Drive and the end of Ronwood Drive is maintained as manicured grass.

As part of the design process for the Waveland Trail, Councilperson Hensley and several neighborhood residents inquired if housing could be developed on the old 56th Street onramp, now Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) excess property, and also allow the trail to connect to 56th Street. Staff reviewed the area to see if 4 to 6 single-family house lots could be developed and still allow the trail to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

There is approximately a 44-foot drop in elevation from 56th Street near Pleasant Drive to the northwest corner of the IDOT excess property along the freeway. This large drop in elevation made it challenging to design the Waveland Trail to comply with the requirements of the ADA, which requires a maximum grade of 5 percent. During design, several alternative alignments were evaluated. The only one that would comply with the ADA requirements required the trail to be located near Pleasant Drive, which is how the trail has been designed. The alternative alignments could not be brought into compliance with the requirement and also required a significant amount of fill with an estimated additional cost of \$150,000 to \$200,000. The location near Pleasant Drive was shown in the Trail Alignment for Waveland Trail, Phase 1 approved by the City Council on March 24, 2008. The current design provides a safe and ADA compliant trail alignment. The design provides the most economical and user-friendly facility to traverse this difficult topographical area.

Despite the difficulty of adding house lots to this property and still allowing the trail to meet ADA guidelines, staff believes that it is possible to develop one single-family house lot located at the southwest corner of the IDOT excess property without impacting the trail and will work toward creating this lot upon the completion of the trail construction.

On May 4, 2009, under Roll Call No. 09-708, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Waveland Trail Phase 1 from the Walnut Creek Trail to 56th Street. Before the City Council can enter into a contract, it must hold a public hearing and approve the proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents and engineer's estimate for the construction of the Waveland Trail Phase 1 from the Walnut Creek Trail to 56th Street, 11-2006-006. The improvement includes constructing a 10-foot wide hot mix asphalt trail 6.0 inches thick, earthwork, clearing and grubbing, culverts, and other incidental items; in accordance with the contract documents, including Plans File Nos. 496-001/041, on Waveland Trail from the existing Walnut Creek Trail just east of 63rd Street to 56th Street at Interstate 235 in Des Moines, Iowa.

Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:

Elder Corporation, Des Moines, IA
Sheets Excavating, Ltd., Montezuma, IA
OMG Midwest, Inc. d/b/a Des Moines Asphalt & Paving, Des Moines, IA
Grimes Asphalt & Paving Corp., Grimes, IA
Corell Contractor, Inc., West Des Moines, IA

The bids, in accordance with a previously approved Iowa DOT Agreement, were received and opened by the Iowa DOT on May 19, 2009. The attached tabulation of bids by the Iowa DOT for said

improvement be and is hereby received, and filed.

The City Engineer has determined that the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement was submitted by Elder Corporation, Jared R. Elder II, President, 5088 E. University Avenue, Des Moines, IA, 50327 in the amount of \$273,999.99, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 4, 2009

Roll Call Number: 09-708

Action: Ordering construction of the following: Waveland Trail Phase 1 from the Walnut Creek Trail to 56th Street: Receiving of bids, (5-19-09), and Setting date of hearing, (6-8-09). (Construction Estimate - \$330,000). (Council Communication No. 09-284) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: August 11, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-1401

Action: Approving Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement for Waveland Trail – Phase 1. (Council Communication No. 08-477) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: March 24, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-531

Action: Waveland Trail Phase I recommended trail route. (Council Communication No. 08-156) Moved by Hensley to approve. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Meyer.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: February 26, 2008

Roll Call Number: Parks and Recreation Board

Action: Approval of Recommended Route and Public Input Report

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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