

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date</b>	October 26, 2009
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> 15 <b>Roll Call No.</b> <u>09-</u> <b>Communication No.</b> <u>09-748</u> <b>Submitted by:</b> <b>Jeb E. Brewer, P.E.</b> <span style="padding-left: 100px;">City Engineer</span>	

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Authorization to acquire the necessary right-of-way and easements for the SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street Widening – Court Avenue to the Des Moines River Project by gift, negotiation or eminent domain.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend authorization to acquire necessary right-of-way for the SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street Widening – Court Avenue to the Des Moines River Project by gift, negotiation or eminent domain. This project will improve traffic capacity and increase the safety on SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street within the project limits. This action is required by Iowa law before the City can initiate the right-of-way acquisition process under eminent domain.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: To be determined after design is complete and the right-of-way acquisition limits have been determined.

Funding Source: 2009-10 CIP, Page Streets-39, STR237, S.E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street Widening – Court Avenue to the Des Moines River, TIF Bonds.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street is an important arterial roadway connecting the south side of Des Moines to the State Capitol and Central Business District. Development on the southeast side of Des Moines and the success of the East Village have caused already heavy traffic demands to increase. The construction of the SE Connector across the Des Moines River to SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street will further increase traffic volumes on this busy roadway. This project provides for complete reconstruction of SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street into a complete street, from the Des Moines River Bridge north to Court Avenue. The improvements will include a three-lane roadway with one lane of traffic in each direction, along with a center two-way left-turn lane. Bike lanes will be included on both sides of the roadway. The roadway corridor would also be improved to an urban standard with the construction of curbs, storm sewer and sidewalks.

Approximately 28 temporary easements for construction and two permanent easements for traffic signals will be required from adjoining property owners along this project. The City’s Real Estate Division is currently in the process of determining the fair market values for the easement interests to be acquired and after said fair market values are completed, they will be submitted to the City Council or the City Manager, as applicable, for approval and authorization to proceed with the acquisitions.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: March 3, 2009

Roll Call Number: 09-368

Action: Approving Professional Services Agreement with Snyder & Associates for Design and Construction Phase services for the SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street Widening-Court Avenue to the Des Moines River, not to exceed \$297,500. (Council Communication No. 09-141) Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

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

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Establish fair market values for property interests to be acquired.

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