

 <h1 style="text-align: center;">Council Communication</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: June 14, 2010
	Agenda Item No. 8 Roll Call No. [Roll Call] Communication No. <u>10-336</u> Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving FY2012 Traffic Safety Fund Applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization to submit applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for FY2012 Traffic Safety Funds for three projects. The IDOT has an annual program to provide funds for Traffic Safety Fund improvements. The deadline for this year’s application is June 15, 2010. Staff has reviewed various locations and has developed three projects for submittal: 19th Street/ML King Jr. Parkway Corridor Safety Improvements; Citywide Fixed-time Traffic Signal Upgrade Project; and 7th Street and Laurel Street Traffic Signal Installation.

FISCAL IMPACT: Proposed Traffic Safety Funding requests are as follows:

1. 19th Street/ML King Jr. Parkway Corridor Safety Improvements

Traffic Safety Funds Requested	\$250,000
Total Project Cost	\$280,000

2. Citywide Fixed-time Traffic Signal Upgrade Project

Traffic Safety Funds Requested	\$80,000
Iowa Clean Air Attainment Funds	\$320,000 (approved)
Total Project Cost	\$450,000

3. 7th Street and Laurel Street Traffic Signal Installation

Traffic Safety Funds Requested	\$75,000
Total Project Cost	\$170,000

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The IDOT implemented an annual program beginning in 1988 to provide for traffic safety improvements. These improvements may include roadway construction projects to correct high-crash locations, upgrading of obsolete traffic control devices to comply with the requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, or traffic studies to determine how to correct a safety problem. Since the program began, Des Moines has been successful in receiving approval of 68 projects and over

\$16 million, including several major intersection improvements, traffic signal upgrades, and other safety projects. Applications are currently being accepted until June 15, 2010, for the next programming cycle.

Traffic and Transportation staff has reviewed various projects, and recommends that the following three be submitted for funding:

1. 19th Street / ML King Jr. Parkway Corridor Safety Improvements: This project would install improvements along 19th Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway between University Avenue and Hickman Road, according to the recent “Thrivent Neighborhood Traffic Study” recommendations. The improvements include:
 - a. Pedestrian crossings on ML King at Washington, Franklin and Lincoln Avenues, including new flashing pedestrian “HAWK” (High-intensity Activated crosswalk) signals;
 - b. Real-time speed display signs on ML King, one each for northbound and southbound traffic; and
 - c. Traffic signal modifications at ML King/Forest, 19th/Forest, ML King/Carpenter, and 19th/Carpenter, including new vehicle signal heads and “countdown” pedestrian signals.

The estimated project cost, including design and construction administration, is \$280,000. The construction cost is \$250,000, which would be requested from State Traffic Safety Funds.

2. Citywide Fixed-Time Traffic Signal Upgrade Project: This project consists of upgrading the traffic signal operation at 20 existing intersections that currently operate as fixed- time signals. The locations are along four of the City’s more important traffic-carrying corridors—2nd Avenue, University Avenue, Grand Avenue, and Keo Way. The proposed project would involve installation of vehicle detectors on the side street and left-turning phases, along with adding pedestrian pushbuttons, thereby maximizing the amount of green time available for the major roadway. The total project cost is \$450,000. The Iowa DOT has approved \$320,000 of Iowa Clean Air Attainment (ICAAP) funds for this project. The City would request \$80,000 from State Traffic Safety Funds.
3. 7th and Laurel Traffic Signal Installation: This project would install traffic signals at the intersection of 7th Street and Laurel Street, including the drive to Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC). The intersection is currently controlled as a two-way stop. The traffic signal would be interconnected into the downtown signal system. The City would request that \$75,000 of State Traffic Safety Funds be approved for the purchase of the equipment. The total project cost is estimated at \$170,000.

These projects are not included in the current Capital Improvements Program (CIP); however, if Traffic Safety Funding is approved, the approved projects can be added to the 2011-12, Page Street Improvements – 12, City-wide Signals, Channelization and School Crossing Protection Program, TFC091. If funding is approved, construction would be expected to be accomplished in 2011 or 2012.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Date: May 11, 2010

Roll Call Number: N/A

Action: A motion was made by Carl McPherson to approve staff's recommendation to submit three projects to the Iowa Department of Transportation for consideration in their Traffic Safety Improvement Program; seconded by Kevin Williamson. Motion passed unanimously.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Approval of project agreements with IDOT.

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