

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: February 14, 2011
	Agenda Item No. 9 Roll Call No. <u>11-0170</u> Communication No. <u>11-095</u> Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorizing City participation in Traffic Safety and Student Drop-off Area Improvements at Central Campus, 1800 Grand Ave, for Downtown School and Authorization for the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with the Des Moines Public Schools.

SYNOPSIS:

Dr. Nancy Sebring, Superintendent of Des Moines Public Schools, has requested that the City participate in the combined improvements needed for a new student loading area for the Downtown School being relocated to the Central Campus at 1800 Grand Avenue. The School District would pay for the design of the improvements (except for pedestrian and traffic signal improvements) and construction of the improvements inside the sidewalk, at an estimated cost of \$132,000. The City would pay for the cost of constructing the new curb, an 11' or 12' sidewalk, storm sewer modifications and modifications to the pedestrian crossings and traffic signals, at an estimated cost of \$100,000, as stipulated in negotiated Agreement. The City would also provide excess right-of-way to the School District, and would complete the signal improvements in-house.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$100,000 plus value of excess right-of-way.

Funding Source: 2010-2011 CIP, Page Street-12, City-wide Signals, Channelization, and School Crossing Protection Program, TFC091

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Des Moines Public Schools have decided to move the Downtown School from its present location in the Keck City Center at 5th and Grand to the Central Campus at 1800 Grand. Traffic and Transportation staff has worked closely with School District staff and their consultants to develop the most effective and safe area for parents to drop off and pick up their children at this new location.

At the existing Downtown School location, children are dropped off and picked up at the curb adjacent to the school building. However, at the new location, there are no suitable areas for on-street drop off and pickup. The recommended plan is to have the primary student loading area occur at the northeast corner of the school building, but this area will require significant improvements to provide a safe and efficient loading area. Following completion of the north-south segment of ML King, Jr. Parkway, there is much less traffic through the intersection of Fleur and Grand, so there is some excess street area that could be used to increase the size of this loading area.

Dr. Nancy Sebring, Superintendent has sent a letter dated January 4, 2011 requesting that the City participate in the combined improvements needed for this loading area. As proposed, the School District would pay for the design of the improvements (except for pedestrian and traffic signal improvements) and construction of the improvements inside the sidewalk, at an estimated cost of \$132,000. The City would pay for the cost of constructing the new curb, an 11' or 12' sidewalk, storm sewer modifications and modifications to the pedestrian crossings and traffic signals, at an estimated cost of \$100,000. The City would also provide the excess right-of-way to the School District, and would complete the signal improvements in-house.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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