

Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date: June 13, 2011

Agenda Item No. 11
Roll Call No. 11-974

Communication No. <u>11-358</u>

Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E.

City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Additional FY2013 Traffic Safety Fund Application to the Iowa Department of Transportation.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization to submit an additional application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for FY2013 Traffic Safety Funds. The IDOT has an annual program to provide funds for Traffic Safety Fund improvements. The deadline for this year's applications is June 15, 2011. On May 23, 2011, by Roll Call No. 11-0863, City Council approved three projects for submittal to the IDOT for Traffic Safety Program Funding. Since then, staff has reviewed an additional project, and recommends that the Hubbell Avenue "Four-Lane to Three-Lane Conversion" Project between E 18th Street and E 33rd Street, including bicycle lanes, be submitted.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed additional Traffic Safety Funding request is as follows:

1. Hubbell Avenue "Four-Lane to Three-Lane Conversion" Project between E 18th Street and E 33rd Street, including bicycle lanes

Traffic Safety Funds Requested \$330,000 Total Project Cost \$390,000

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On May 23, 2011 by Roll Call No. 11-0863, City Council approved three projects for submittal to the IDOT for Traffic Safety Improvement Program funding. Since then, Traffic and Transportation staff has identified an additional project for submittal. Applications are currently being accepted until June 15, 2011, for the next programming cycle. The additional project is as follows:

Hubbell Avenue "Four-Lane to Three-Lane Conversion" project, including bicycle lanes: This project would consist of restriping Hubbell Avenue between E 18th and E 33rd Streets from the existing four-lane roadway (two lanes in each direction) to a three-lane roadway (one lane in each direction, along with a center left-turning lane), along with bicycle lanes. Minor widening and median work would be required at the intersection with University Avenue, and a wider sidewalk would be needed on the north side of Hubbell near E 18th Street.

By converting this roadway to a three-lane facility, improved safety would result along this corridor. Previous studies conducted by the Iowa DOT have indicated that projects of this type have reduced crashes by an average of 29%.

This project, also known as the "Northeast Des Moines Bicycle Corridor" has been identified as one of three "Priority Projects" in the City of Des Moines "Bicycle and Trail Master Plan, which is also being submitted to City Council for approval on June 13, 2011.

The estimated project cost is \$390,000. Traffic Safety funds in the amount of \$330,000, representing the construction costs, will be requested from IDOT.

This project is not included in the current Capital Improvements Program (CIP); however, if Traffic Safety Funding is approved, the project can be added to the 2012-13 CIP, new project sheet entitled "Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Projects." If funding is approved, construction would be expected to be accomplished in 2012.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 23, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-0863

Action: Approving FY2013 Traffic Safety Fund Applications to Iowa Department of Transportation: (Council Communication No. 11-307) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

- (A) Beaver and Urbandale Intersection Roundabout.
- (B) E 4th Street Traffic Signals at Court Avenue/Walnut Street.
- (C) Citywide School Flasher System Upgrade.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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