

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	December 19, 2011
	Agenda Item No. Roll Call No. Communication No. Submitted by:	7 <u>11-2102</u> <u>Council</u> <u>Communication: 11-767</u> Jeb E. Brewer, P.E. City Engineer, and Donald M. Tripp, Director of Park and Recreation

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of an Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Agreement for sidewalk/trail improvements along the south side of I-235 between 42nd Street and Bradway Place.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of IDOT Agreement No. 2012-16-064 for sidewalk/trail improvements along the south side of I-235 between 42nd Street and Bradway Place. This is a cooperative project between the City of Des Moines and the IDOT, with IDOT funding the grading and landscaping work (estimated at \$50,000) and the City funding the trail construction work (estimated at \$50,000).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$100,000

Funding Source: Various funding sources as follows:

\$50,000 Iowa Department of Transportation Funds;
 \$25,000 2011-2012 CIP, Recreation Trails, PKS045, G.O. Bonds, Page Park Improvements-17;
 \$25,000 2011-2012 CIP, Sidewalks—School and Priority Routes, STR081, G.O. Bonds, Page Street Improvements-29.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On June 28, 2010, by Roll Call No. 10-1026, City Council denied a request from Wade and Mary Krieg, owners, 691 Harwood Drive, for vacation of a portion of I-235 right-of-way approximately 15 feet north of and adjoining both 691 Harwood Drive and 680 42nd Street and directed staff to work with the IDOT, and the Ingersoll Park Neighborhood Association representatives to develop a project that would widen and improve the existing sidewalk connection at this location.

On August 1, 2010, the Ingersoll Park Neighborhood Association submitted a letter to the IDOT outlining neighborhood concerns and proposed solutions. Recommendations included:

- 1) Visually opening up the walkway, but without “clear-cutting” the entire area;
- 2) Replacing the east-west fence and changing its location at the west end to run northwest;
- 3) Installing new landscaping throughout the area;

- 4) Replacing the fence along the interstate wall on Pleasant Street between the points where it meets the new fence line and the pedestrian bridge;
- 5) Exploring lighting options for the walkway; and
- 6) Transferring the property to City ownership.

The timing of the neighborhood association's letter coincided with the Park and Recreation Department's development of the Bicycle and Trail Master Plan, and the Ingersoll Park Neighborhood connection was incorporated into that plan as a result. An added benefit of the connection is that it serves as a segment in a one-mile trail and sidewalk/bicycle facility loop for area neighborhoods and therefore promotes bicycle and pedestrian connectivity.

In the fall 2010, the Park and Recreation and Engineering Departments began to work with the IDOT and the neighborhood association to develop the project and design the new pedestrian/bicycle facility. The proposed connection is an eight-foot-wide trail, which better facilitates two-way bicycle and pedestrian traffic. In August 2011, the Ingersoll Park Neighborhood Association Board voted and approved the proposed plan for construction.

The proposed IDOT project agreement, states that the City and the IDOT propose to make improvements "consisting of removal of the current sidewalk and fence within the existing DOT right-of-way and constructing a new sidewalk/trail and fence between 42nd and Bradway Place, also within existing DOT right-of-way, including landscaping of the area." The City's responsibilities consist of sidewalk design, including Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, funding the paving of the trail and an additional short sidewalk connection between the trail and the existing sidewalk.

The IDOT will complete construction of the entire project, which is estimated at \$100,000, and the City will reimburse the IDOT for its portion of the costs upon completion. The IDOT has estimated the City's cost to be \$50,000, which would be equally funded by the Recreation Trails and the Sidewalk CIP accounts. The amount paid by the City upon completion of construction will be determined by the actual quantities in place and the bid prices from the contract award.

The agreement states that the City "shall assume responsibility for all future maintenance operations associated therewith, all at no additional expense or obligation to the DOT." Typical maintenance duties include removing trash and debris, plowing snow in the winter, mowing in the summer, trimming trees and shrubs, sweeping the trail when necessary and repairing or replacing any deficient trail surface materials. This trail will be constructed of Portland Cement Concrete and is expected to last a minimum of 20 years.

Upon completion of construction, the IDOT will transfer jurisdiction of the land south of the new fence, including the new trail to the City. The City will maintain the land and trail as part of the park and open space system. In October 2011, the Park and Recreation Board approved the project, including the recommendation for acceptance of the 0.5 acre land parcel as park and open space property.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 13, 2011

Roll Call Number: [11-1046](#)

Action: [Adoption](#) of Bicycle and Trail Master Plan as an element of the 2020 Community Character Plan and authorize City Manager to appoint an advisory committee to coordinate fundraising and implementation strategy. ([Council Communication No. 11-360](#)) Moved by Moore to adopt; City Manager to provide Council with a pool of candidates for appointment to the Advisory Committee. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 28, 2010

Roll Call Number: [10-1026](#)

Action: [Recommending](#) DENIAL of a request from Wade and Mary Krieg, (owners) 691 Harwood Drive, for vacation of a portion of Interstate 235 right-of-way approximately 15 feet north of and adjoining both 691 Harwood Drive and 680 42nd Street. Moved by Moore to receive, file, and refer to the Traffic and Transportation Division and the Real Estate Division of the Engineering Department. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Plan and Zoning Commission

Date: June 2, 2011

Action: Recommending that the 2020 Community Character Plan be amended to include the Bicycle and Trail Master Plan as an element. Moved by Greg Jones. Motion carried 11-0.

Date: June 17, 2010

Action: Finding that preservation of the requested portion of I-235, serving as a walkway connection, is an essential public purpose and therefore should not be removed by the IDOT from the public right-of-way. Moved by Brian Millard. Motion carried 10-1.

Park and Recreation Board

Date: October 25, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-109

Action: Approve the Ingersoll Park Neighborhood Trail project, including acceptance of a 0.5 acre land parcel as park and open space property. Moved by Jensen. Motion Carried.

Date: May 24, 2011

Roll Call Number: 11-060

Action: Recommending that the Bicycle and Trail Master Plan be adopted as an element of the 2020 Community Character Plan. Moved by Modersohn. Motion carried.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Normal actions for award of the construction contract.

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