

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	February 13, 2012
	Agenda Item No.	8
	Roll Call No.	[_____]
	Communication No.	<u>12-072</u>
	Submitted by:	Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer and Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorization to proceed with design, including issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional services for the Walnut Street Streetscape Renovation.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the authorization to proceed with design, including issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional services for the Walnut Street Streetscape Renovation. The scope of work will include preparation of a schematic design and cost estimates for street modifications and streetscape improvements along Walnut Street from 2nd Avenue to 10th Street.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$150,000 (schematic design and survey only)

Funding Source: 2012-2013 CIP, Page Street-51, Walnut Street Mall Renovation, STR252, TIF Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Downtown Community Alliance (DCA) initiated a study of Walnut Street from 2nd Avenue to 10th Street in mid-2011. This study was prompted by several factors including the rise in vacancies along Walnut Street and the future elimination of the transit mall function on Walnut Street that has been in operation since the mid-1980's. This study resulted in a functional programming report. This report, which included input from the City of Des Moines, key downtown property owners, businesses, and other stakeholders, identified the preferred arrangement of programmatic elements for Walnut Street. Among a number of programmatic recommendations for elements typical to streetscape (auto/pedestrian configuration, parking, sidewalk, street lighting, traffic signalization, and landscape features), the functional program also calls for a blending of public and private spaces aimed to enrich and enliven urban activity along Walnut Street. In late 2011, a planning and design workshop for Walnut Street was conducted by DCA with Agrest + Gandelsonas Architects. The workshop resulted in a vision for Walnut Street that coincides with the program recommendations and will guide the design of the streetscape.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Normal Council actions on professional services agreements.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.