

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b> May 7, 2012
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> [Agenda Item] <b>Roll Call No.</b> [ ] <b>Communication No.</b> 12-214 <b>Submitted by:</b> <b>Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer, and Donald Tripp, Park and Recreation Director</b>

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving and authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement for Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail and the SW 14th Quiet Street.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval of Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Agreement No. 2012-RT-007 for State Recreational Trails grant award for the Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail and SW 14<sup>th</sup> Quiet Street Project. The IDOT has approved this project for funding up to a maximum of \$439,920.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: \$690,340

Funding Source: Various funding sources as follows:

- \$439,920 Iowa DOT State Recreational Trails (SRT)
- \$41,000 Gray's Lake Neighborhood Association
- \$40,000 Anticipated donations of land in lieu of G.O. Bonds
- \$169,420 2012-2013 CIP, Page Park-16, Recreation Trails, PKS045, G.O. Bonds

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

In 2011, the City applied for funding for the development of the Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail and SW 14<sup>th</sup> Quiet Street project, which is one of the priority projects in the City's Bicycle and Trail Master Plan. On October 11, 2011, the Iowa DOT approved \$439,920 of SRT funds for the projects.

The Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail will begin where Casady Drive intersects with Bell Avenue and run easterly along the north side of Bell Avenue as it becomes Thomas Beck Road. It will turn north to pass between two private commercial properties and connect to the American Discovery Trail south of Gray's Lake Park. This 0.6 mile, 10-foot wide trail creates a safe pedestrian and bicycle friendly connection not only to Gray's Lake Park, but also to the American Discovery Trail and the Meredith Trail, thereby connecting it to the extent of Central Iowa's 550-mile trail system. Construction of this project is anticipated later this summer.

The 3.8-mile SW 14<sup>th</sup> Quiet Street, picks up where the Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail leaves off. It will head south from Druid Hill Drive to Casady Drive to Southwest 14<sup>th</sup> Street and ultimately connect the Blank Park Zoo and SuperBlock entertainment destinations downtown. A "quiet street" is a low-volume and low-speed street where motorists and bicyclists share the same space. Traffic-calming intersection treatments and traffic diversion are typical elements used to establish the quiet street as a preferential path for cyclists. These treatments reduce vehicle speeds so that motorists and bicyclists generally travel at the same speed, creating a safer and more comfortable environment for all users. The SW 14<sup>th</sup> Quiet Street has not yet been designed. A bicycle facility planning consultant will work with staff and residents to create a concept plan. SRT grant funds will be used for design and construction expenses. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2013.



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: April 9, 2012

Roll Call Number: [12-0520](#)

Action: [Establishing](#) fair market value of multiple properties for the Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail Project. ([Council Communication No. 12-154](#)). Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

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; Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: February 14, 2011

Roll Call Number: [11-0252](#)

Action: On intent to acquire properties for recreational trail purposes and authorize acquisition of the necessary property interests from various property owners for the Gray's Lake connection trail project. ([Council Communication No. 11-086](#)). Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion carried 7-0.

Date: January 24, 2011

Roll Call Number: [11-0113](#)

Action: Proposed alignment of the Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail and addition of such trail to the City of Des Moines Multi-use Recreational Trails Master Plan Map. ([Council Communication No. 11-043](#)). Moved by Hensley to adopt. 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.

Park and Recreation Board

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.

Date: December 28, 2010

Resolution Number: 10-106

Recommending approval of the addition of the Gray's Lake Neighborhood Connecting Trail to the City of Des Moines multi-use trails master plan map. Moved by Gelb to approve. Motion Carried 12-0.

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Normal actions for award of the construction contracts on both project phases.

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