

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: July 29, 2013
	Agenda Item No. 7 Roll Call No. <u>13-1183</u> Communication No. <u>13-402</u> Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Traffic Safety Fund Applications to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization to submit applications to the IDOT for FY2015 Traffic Safety Funds for three projects. The IDOT has an annual program to provide funds for Traffic Safety Fund improvements. The deadline for this year’s applications is August 15, 2013. Staff has reviewed various locations and has developed three projects for submittal: East 46th Street and Hubbell Avenue Intersection Widening and Signalization, Pedestrian Crossing Signal Upgrades – 15 Intersections, and Traffic Signal Battery Backup Units – 30 Intersections.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$550,000

Funding Source: \$450,000, 2013-2014 CIP, Page Street - 12, East 46th and Hubbell Avenue Intersection Improvements, ST254, G.O. Bonds; and \$100,000, 2013-2014 CIP, Page Street - 46, Traffic Signals, Channelization, and School Crossings, TR091, G. O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Proposed Traffic Safety Funding requests are as follows:

1. East 46th Street and Hubbell Avenue Intersection Widening and Signalization

Traffic Safety Funds Requested	\$500,000
Total Project Cost	\$950,000

2. Pedestrian Crossing Signal Upgrades – 15 intersections

Traffic Safety Funds Requested	\$150,000
Total Project Cost	\$190,000

3. Traffic Signal Battery Backup Units – 30 Intersections

Traffic Safety Funds Requested	\$210,000
Total Project Cost	\$270,000

The IDOT implemented an annual program beginning in 1988 to provide for traffic safety improvements. These improvements may include roadway construction projects to correct high-crash locations, upgrading of obsolete traffic control devices to comply with the requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, or traffic studies to determine how to correct a safety problem. Since the program began, Des Moines has been successful in receiving approval of 78 projects and over \$18.4 million, including several major intersection improvements, traffic signal upgrades, and other safety projects. Applications are currently being accepted until August 15, 2013, for the next programming cycle.

Traffic and Transportation staff has reviewed various projects, and recommends that the following three be submitted for funding:

1. East 46th Street and Hubbell Avenue Intersection Widening and Signalization. This project would consist of widening the Hubbell Avenue approaches at East 46th Street to provide left turning lanes in both directions. Right turning lanes would be added on the East 46th Street approaches. Traffic signals would be installed. The total project cost is estimated to be \$950,000. Traffic Safety Funds in the amount of \$500,000 will be requested. Urban-State Traffic Engineering Program (U-STEP) funding will be requested from IDOT for the 55% of the remainder of the construction costs.
2. Pedestrian Crossing Signal Upgrades – 15 Intersections. This project would replace the existing pedestrian signals at 15 intersections citywide. New pedestrian crossing signals would include countdown timers. Pedestrian pushbuttons would also be replaced with new ones meeting Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. The “Accessible Pedestrian Signal” subcommittee of the City’s Access Advisory Board will be involved in selection of these locations. Traffic Safety Funds for the equipment portion of the project, approximately \$150,000, will be requested.
3. Traffic Signal Battery Backup Units – 30 Intersections. This project would provide battery backup units at 30 of the City’s traffic signals. This will allow our more major signalized intersections to remain in normal operation during power outages. The total cost of the equipment is estimated to be \$210,000, which will be requested from Traffic Safety Funds.

The East 46th/Hubbell Avenue project is included in the current Capital Improvements Program (CIP) – Street Improvements page 12. The remaining three projects are not included in the current CIP. However, if Traffic Safety Funding is approved, the projects would be recommended for consideration in the FY2014-15 CIP. If funding is approved, construction would be expected to be accomplished in 2014 or 2015.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Traffic Safety Committee

Date: May 14, 2013

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: A motion was made by Scott Galenbeck to approve staff recommendation that the above-mentioned projects be submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation for consideration in their FY 2015 Traffic Safety Improvement Program funding. Motion passed 6:0.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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