

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: September 9, 2013
	Agenda Item No. 26 Roll Call No. <u>13-1400</u> Communication No. <u>13-467</u> Submitted by: Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the Roosevelt Cultural District (RCD) streetscape concept plan.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the RCD streetscape concept plan for streetscape improvements along 42nd Street from Center Street to Crocker Street. The concept plan was developed by Bolton & Menk, Inc. who worked closely with a steering committee comprised of RCD business and property owners, leaders from the Drake, Waterbury, and Waveland Park neighborhoods, as well as City staff.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: Estimated project cost is \$1.7 million

Funding Source: To be determined. It is anticipated that a mix of public, private, and grant funds will be necessary to move the project forward. The City’s Capital Improvement Program is facing enormous challenges. We are not prepared to make City funding commitments at this time.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For the past several years the RCD has been considering streetscape improvements for 42nd Street. Streetscape improvements were initially suggested in the Roosevelt Cultural District Vision Committee Report & Recommendations, submitted to City Council in 2008. In order to take the project to the next phase, the RCD requested assistance from the City in late 2010 to develop a streetscape concept plan.

On November 5, 2012, by Roll Call No. 12-1682, the City Council approved a professional services agreement with Bolton & Menk, Inc. for conceptual design services for the Roosevelt Cultural District Streetscape project. The conceptual streetscape design addresses the 42nd Street corridor from Center Street to Crocker Street.

A steering committee comprised of RCD business and property owners, as well as leaders from the Drake, Waterbury, and Waveland Park neighborhoods worked with City staff from various departments and the consultant team to develop the conceptual plan and cost estimates. The planning team began the process of developing a conceptual streetscape plan by gathering input from the community on what they would like to see in an improved Roosevelt Cultural District. The team also reached out to the Des Moines Public School District to discuss the needs of Hubbell Elementary School and Roosevelt High School. In addition, the team coordinated with DART as 42nd Street is part of the Route 60 loop, which is proposed for future Bus Rapid Transit, and with the Des Moines Playhouse, which is currently undergoing significant renovations.

The priorities identified by the community included increased pedestrian safety by emphasizing a pedestrian friendly environment, creating a strong sense of place and branding for the RCD, design cues that tie into the unique architecture of the area, and “greening” the corridor by installing street trees and low-maintenance landscaping. A traffic study was also conducted to ensure that the corridor would still provide adequate vehicle movement.

A series of public meetings were held with the RCD business community and adjacent neighborhood associations. The purpose of these meetings was to present and gather feedback on the draft streetscape plan. In addition to the public meetings, the consultant team and City staff met with each property and business owner individually to discuss the project and identify any needs and concerns. The steering committee used input from all of these meetings to develop the final concept plan. The Roosevelt Cultural District Board, as well as the Drake Neighborhood Association and the Waveland Park Neighborhood Association, submitted a letter of support for the project.

A supplemental agreement will be negotiated with the consultant for final design and construction administration services. City of Des Moines Streetscape Guidelines requires that the cost of final design be shared by the City and community stakeholder group. The cost of the final design phase of the project is estimated at approximately \$200,000 with the community stakeholder group expected to provide private match funds for 50% of this cost. A fundraising committee has been established and is already working on the private fundraising effort. The City’s portion of the project cost will be subject to available funding for streetscape improvements in future Capital Improvement Program years. This project is likely eligible to apply for grant funding for construction, such as the MPO’s Transportation Alternatives Program and other potential public and private grant opportunities.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: November 5, 2012

Roll Call Number: [12-1682](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Bolton & Menk, Inc. for conceptual design services for the Roosevelt Cultural District Streetscape, not to exceed \$67,870. ([Council Communication No. 12-566](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 11, 2012

Roll Call Number: [12-0862](#)

Action: [Authorization](#) to proceed with conceptual design, including issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional services for the Roosevelt Cultural District Streetscape. ([Council Communication No. 12-284](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: December 8, 2008

Roll Call Number: [08-2129](#)

Action: [Receipt](#) of Roosevelt Cultural District Vision Committee Report & Recommendations as presented to the Roosevelt Cultural District Board. Moved by Hensley to receive and file the report. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Normal Council actions on consultant services for design and construction administration, and construction contracts.

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