

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: April 21, 2014
	Agenda Item No. 57 Roll Call No. <u>14-0653</u> Communication No. <u>14-188</u> Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the application for a Department of Transportation (DOT) Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant for the Downtown Transportation Restoration project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization to apply for DOT’s National Infrastructure Investments under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 for the Downtown Transportation Restoration project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$40 million

Funding Source: Various Funding Sources, as follows:

- \$22 million – TIGER Discretionary Grant
- \$2.129 million – Federal STP funding allocated by the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization for Grand Avenue Bridge over Des Moines River
- \$1.5 million – Private dollars pending
- \$14.371 million – 2014-2015 CIP, as follows:
 - \$175,000 - Page Bridges – 5, City-wide Bridges, BR003
 - \$850,000 - Page Bridges – 6, Downtown Transportation Restoration, BR053
 - \$5.07 million - Page Bridges – 10, Grand Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River
 - \$3.7 million – Page Bridges – 12, Locust Street Bridge over the Des Moines River
 - \$2.726 million – Page Bridges – 13, Scott Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River
 - \$1.85 million – Page Parks – 10, Multi-use Trail bridges

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 appropriated \$600 million to be awarded by the DOT for National Infrastructure Investments. Due to the similarity to previous appropriation for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or “TIGER Discretionary Grant”, DOT is referring to these grants as “TIGER Discretionary Grants”.

The funds are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area or a region. The primary selection criteria are: state of good repair, economic competitiveness, quality of life, environmental sustainability and safety. The secondary

selection criteria include innovation and partnership. As with the previous TIGER Discretionary Grants, this is a highly competitive grant. This is the sixth round of TIGER Discretionary Grants. DOT anticipates receiving 1,000 applications for the \$600 million available. The previous five (5) rounds resulted in 5,300 applications and only 270 awards or 5%. The previous requests for funding totaled \$115 billion for the \$3.5 billion available. The City of Des Moines was awarded a TIGER Discretionary Grant in 2012 for construction of the Southeast Connector. The City applied three (3) times. The original grant request was for \$30 million for a fully built project, with an alternate request of \$15 million for the two-lane construction. The awarded grant amount was \$10 million.

Grants funded under the program must be greater than \$10 million (except in rural areas), but less than \$200 million. No more than 25% or \$150 million can be awarded to projects in a single state and at least \$120 million is to be used for projects in rural areas. The DOT must take measures to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of funds and an appropriate balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural communities and the investment in a variety of transportation modes. TIGER Discretionary Grants may be used for up to 80% of the eligible costs of a project, but priority will be given to projects for which federal funding is required to complete an overall financing package. There are a few differences from previous rounds of TIGER funding, including:

1. Priority will be given to applications that better connect communities to centers of employment, education, and services (including non-drivers) and that hold promise to stimulate long-term job growth, especially in economically distressed areas. Additional consideration will be given to proposals that seek to strengthen opportunities to expand the middle class.
2. Up to \$35 million is available for planning grants.
3. The timeframe for obligating funds is longer than previous rounds. Funding is available until 2016 and must be expended by 2021. This longer timeframe allows complex and multimodal projects that may require longer schedules to be submitted.

The Downtown Transportation Restoration project includes:

Grand Avenue over Des Moines River Bridge Replacement
 Locust Street over Des Moines River Bridge Replacement
 Court Avenue over Des Moines River Bridge Historic Rehabilitation
 Principal Riverwalk Red Multi-Use Trail Bridge over Des Moines River Rehabilitation
 Scott Avenue Bridge over Des Moines River Rehabilitation
 SW 1st Street Multi-Use Trail Bridge over Raccoon River Rehabilitation
 SW 5th Street (Jackson Avenue) Multi-Use Trail Bridge over Raccoon River Rehabilitation
 Des Moines and Raccoon River Balustrade Rehabilitation

The connectivity provided by the bridges – both roadway and trail, is important to the economic viability, quality of life, and development of the City. The Downtown Transportation Restoration project satisfies many of the selection criteria identified in the grant, including: state of good repair, quality of life, environmental sustainability, and safety.

The private dollars shown as a funding source is currently being raised. There has not been a commitment made for the total amount yet. The SW 5th Street (Jackson Avenue) Multi-Use Trail Bridge will not be included in the grant agreement without an alternate source of funding being committed.

The estimated cost of the Downtown Transportation Restoration project is \$40 million. The TIGER Discretionary Grant application will request \$22 million for construction of the listed projects. An alternate request for less grant funds that would provide for construction of fewer project components will be included in the grant application. TIGER Discretionary Grant applications are due by April 28, 2014. An anticipated announcement date has not been provided.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: March 24, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0473](#)

Action: [Professional](#) Services Agreement with Stanley Consultants, Inc. for design services for The Principal Riverwalk Red Bridge over Des Moines River Rehabilitation, not to exceed \$252,000. ([Council Communication No. 14-131](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: March 24, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0472](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Calhoun-Burns and Associates, Inc. for evaluation, design, and construction phase services for the Scott Avenue over Des Moines River Bridge Rehabilitation, not to exceed \$153,500. ([Council Communication No. 14-123](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: March 24, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0470](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with The Louis Berger Group, Inc. for the Downtown Transportation Restoration Section 106 Study, not to exceed \$57,000. ([Council Communication No. 14-124](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: February 24, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0263](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with CH2MHill, Inc. for environmental and grant work necessary for several downtown bridges known as the Downtown Transportation Restoration Project, not to exceed \$205,000. ([Council Communication No. 14-065](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: January 27, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0117](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Shuck-Britson, Inc. for Design and Construction Phase Services for the Grand Avenue over Des Moines River Bridge Replacement, not to

exceed \$626,169. ([Council Communication No. 14-019](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 5-2.

Date: January 27, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0116](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Shuck-Britson, Inc. for the Des Moines River Downtown Bridges Evaluation, not to exceed \$171,397. ([Council Communication No. 14-022](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 5-2.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

If selected, the City will be asked to enter into a grant agreement.

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 first 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.