

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b> January 25, 2016
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> 9 <b>Roll Call No.</b> <u>16-0106</u> <b>Communication No.</b> <u>16-049</u> <b>Submitted by:</b> Pamela S. Cooksey, P.E., City Engineer

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Authorizing the Utility Conduit Installation Agreements for utilities across the new Grand Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend authorization for the City Engineer to execute Utility Conduit Installation Agreements, as approved by City Legal Department, for private utilities routed across the new Grand Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: Cost of utility conduit installation will be included in the construction contract and be reimbursed to the City by the utilities.

Funding Source: 2015-16 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page Bridge-10, Grand Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The existing Grand Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River supports many existing utilities. Utility coordination has been ongoing for quite some time with all existing utilities required to permanently or temporarily relocate off of the bridge in order for the new bridge to be constructed.

Through the utility coordination, many utilities have requested the new bridge be able to support/accommodate new utility conduit(s) for their use after the new bridge is built. Taking advantage of the design and permitting coordination, the bridge design team is accommodating these requests to the maximum extent possible.

The bridge replacement project is scheduled for a June 21, 2016 Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) letting. In order to facilitate the installation of all the requested conduit and due to the number of different utilities involved, the bridge replacement project will include the utility conduit installation work as part of the bridge replacement project. This will provide for a smoother transition of work and better control of the conduit installation and acceptance. However, as these conduits will not be for the City's use, the City will enter into an agreement with each utility company requiring each utility company to reimburse the City for the construction cost related to the utility conduit(s) placed on the new bridge on their behalf.

Utility Conduit Installation Agreements between the City and each utility company that has requested new conduit to be placed in the new bridge have been drafted. To facilitate each agreement, the City Engineer will be authorized to execute the individual Conduit Installation Agreements with each utility company, as approved by the Legal Department.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: April 6, 2015

Roll Call Number: [15-0572](#)

Action: [Approving](#) revised design concept for Grand Avenue Bridge over Des Moines River. ([Council Communication No. 15-173](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

Date: April 21, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0652](#)

Action: [Approving](#) design concept for Grand Avenue Bridge over Des Moines River. ([Council Communication No. 14-182](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Moore.

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: May 6, 2013

Roll Call Number: [13-0697](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Shuck-Britson, Inc. for evaluation, design, and construction phase services for the Grand Avenue over Des Moines River Bridge Rehabilitation, not to exceed \$273,947. ([Council Communication No. 13-216](#)) Moved by Mahaffey to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):**

Board: Urban Design Review Board

Date: August 4, 2015

Resolution Number: N/A

Action:

- Design approved subject to evaluation of the lane configuration on the bridge after the walkability study is complete.
- Approved use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

Board: Urban Design Review Board

Date: April 15, 2014

Resolution Number: N/A

Action:

- The downtown bridges are a civic landmark and a signature of downtown Des Moines; there is a responsibility to recreate them with a higher level of aesthetics for the next century.
- The aesthetic options presented do not reflect today's technologies and ability to create material details. As design develops, explore the quest for arches within the processes, materials and technologies available now; do not attempt to recreate and veneer the details from 100 years ago. The new bridges should be a reflection of the historical context and today's structures and aesthetics.
- The bridges are an opportunity for traffic calming and enhancing the pedestrian, bike and auto experience and connectivity in downtown. Consider the number of lanes needed, lane width, lighting, parking, sidewalk dimensions.
- The budget should allow for creating quality civic infrastructure that enhances connections between the East Village, western downtown, and the Riverwalk.
- Maintain the public discourse; the downtown bridges are significant pieces of public infrastructure and this bridge will set a precedent for work on the other bridges.

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Normal Council actions for design and construction administration, and construction contracts.

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