

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b>	February 20, 2017
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>54B</b>
	<b>Roll Call No.</b>	<b><u>17-326</u></b>
	<b>Communication No.</b>	<b><u>17-092</u></b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Pamela S. Cooksey, P.E., City Engineer</b>

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving and authorizing the execution of Park Avenue Elementary School Crossing Agreement between the Des Moines Public School District and the City of Des Moines for the removal of the pedestrian bridge crossing SW 9th Street and construction of associated improvements.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval of the Park Avenue Elementary School Crossing Agreement between the Des Moines Public School District and the City of Des Moines to implement the plan for the removal of the pedestrian bridge over SW 9th Street and construction of the associated site improvements.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: \$551,765.75

Funding Source: \$248,295 from 2016-2017 CIP, Page Bridge-4, City-wide Bridges, BR003. The remaining \$303,470.75 from Des Moines Public Schools.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- City of Des Moines in coordination with the Des Moines Public School District, has developed a plan to address the continued deterioration of the existing pedestrian bridge and ongoing maintenance concerns for the bridge at Park Avenue Elementary. City of Des Moines is the lead agency in this project and will be performing the design and construction management. The proposed agreement has the City of Des Moines and the Des Moines School District sharing in the construction cost in a 45/55 split, respectively, based on type of expense and location.
- City staff and Des Moines Public Schools staff identified the need to evaluate the existing pedestrian bridges over Indianola Avenue near Howe Elementary, over SW 9th Street near Park Avenue Elementary, and over University Avenue near Windsor Elementary based on continued deterioration of the bridges and ongoing maintenance concerns. The existing bridges do not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements due to the steep grade of the bridge ramps.
- On August 11, 2014, by Roll Call No. 14-1208, City Council approved a Professional Service Agreement with Shuck-Britson, Inc., to complete a Pedestrian Bridge Structural Evaluation of the three (3) pedestrian bridges. The evaluation considered short-term repairs, full replacement, and removal with associated at-grade improvements.

- On October 24, 2016, by Roll Call No. 16-1808, the City Council approved the Park Avenue Elementary Plan. The plan elements for Park Avenue Elementary include:
  - 1) Remove existing southbound right-turn lane at Park Avenue and SW 9th Street to decrease the crossing distance across SW 9th Street for pedestrians.
  - 2) Add speed feedback signs on SW 9th Street to encourage slower traffic.
  - 3) Add parking insets along Park Avenue and SW 7th Street adjacent to school property.
  - 4) Increase sidewalk areas for pedestrians waiting to cross SW 9th Street and Park Avenue (all corners).
  - 5) Institute an advanced walk sign phase to the existing signals for pedestrians crossing SW 9th Street and Park Avenue.
  
- Removal of the pedestrian bridge over SW 9th Street and construction of the site improvements will occur in summer 2017. The construction contract included substantial completion of the improvements prior to the first day of school in August 2017.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: October 24, 2016

Roll Call Number: [16-1808](#)

Action: [Approving](#) the Howe Elementary, Park Avenue Elementary, and Windsor Elementary Pedestrian Bridge concept plans and authorizing City staff to proceed with acquisition of necessary right of way and easements. ([Council Communication No. 16-619](#)) Moved by Gatto to approve Park Avenue Elementary plan as presented and refer Howe and Windsor Elementary plans to the City Manager for review and recommendation, and to discuss the plans with the Des Moines Public Schools, and to bring back this item at the November 7th Council Meeting. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE****ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, Engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder on construction projects; approving contract and bond and permission to sublet for Park Avenue Elementary Pedestrian Bridge Removal and Site Improvements.

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