

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b> October 23, 2017
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> 39 <b>Roll Call No.</b> <u>17-1840</u> <b>Communication No.</b> <u>17-743</u> <b>Submitted by:</b> Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Communication from City staff in the Community Development and Engineering Departments regarding the 6th Avenue Streetscape Project.

**SYNOPSIS:**

The Community Development Department received a letter on October 16, 2017 from the board of directors for the 6th Avenue Corridor, Inc. (6AC). This letter was a follow-up from a letter from the 6AC to the City that was received on August 18, 2017 regarding potential changes to the 6th Avenue Streetscape design to incorporate a 2-way cycle track. After careful consideration, the 6AC no longer considers the 2-way cycle track to be a viable option for 6th Avenue. Instead, the 6AC board, with agreement from City staff, would encourage, if feasible, a modification to the current streetscape design to incorporate a wider shared use path along one (1) side of the street. This will maintain 3-lanes of traffic.

**FISCAL IMPACT: NONE**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- The 6th Avenue Streetscape Project is a \$7.1 million dollar streetscape project that will improve a 1.2-mile long stretch from I-235 to Hickman Road.
- The streetscape design proposes to reduce the number of travel lanes from 5-lanes to 3- lanes, as well as construct wider sidewalks, bus shelters, street trees, green infrastructure, landscaping, benches, bike racks, and other pedestrian amenities.
- The 6AC board of directors considered incorporating a 2-way cycle track into the 6th Avenue Streetscape Project, which would have reduced the number of travel lanes from 5-lanes to 2-lanes.
- However, after careful consideration, that included hosting a community meeting, the 6AC and City staff agrees that the addition of a 2-way cycle track and reduction to two (2) travel lanes would likely be too dramatic of a change for a minor arterial roadway that carries over 16,000 vehicles per day.

- In addition to being a dramatic change for 6th Avenue, the corridor lacks sufficient right-of-way width to accommodate properly a dedicated bicycle facility, as well as a robust, green streetscape project.
- Instead, the 6AC, with agreement from City staff, would encourage, if feasible, a modification to the current streetscape design to incorporate a wider shared use path along one (1) side of the street. This will maintain three lanes of traffic.
- The Bicycle and Trail Master Plan suggests that a bicycle boulevard or quiet street be established on 9th Street. The Master Plan suggests that 6th Avenue be a shared roadway with signage, which is what is currently called for in the streetscape plan.
- A bicycle boulevard or quiet street is a viable option for 9th Street to add a north-south bicycle facility in the River Bend Neighborhood; however, additional study will be necessary in the future to determine how best to connect such a facility to the broader City trail network, especially north and south of the River Bend Neighborhood.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: October 9, 2017

Roll Call Number: [17-1755](#)

Action: [Receipt](#) of communication from City staff in the Community Development and Engineering Departments regarding the 6th Avenue Streetscape Project. ([Council Communication 17-710](#)) Moved by Gray to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: November 9, 2015

Roll Call Number: [15-1874](#)

Action: [Memorandum](#) of Understanding with the 6th Avenue Corridor, Inc. for the implementation of Phase 1 of the 6th Avenue Streetscape Project. ([Council Communication 15-590](#)) Moved by Gray to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Normal Council action for administration of construction contracts.

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