


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>19-161</b>	Meeting:	<b>April 8, 2019</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>42</b>	Roll Call:	<b>19-581</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Hold hearing on the intent to acquire property for public improvements purposes and to authorize acquisition of the necessary property interests from various property owners for the East Douglas Avenue Widening – E. 42nd Street to E. 56th Street Project by gift, negotiation, or eminent domain.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of authorization to proceed with acquisition of the necessary right-of-way and easements for the East Douglas Avenue Widening – E. 42nd Street to E. 56th Street Project by gift, negotiation, or eminent domain. This action is required by Iowa law before the City can initiate the property acquisition process under eminent domain.

This project consists of reconstructing East Douglas Avenue between E. 42nd Street and E. 56th Street. This project will not require relocation assistance.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: To be determined after design is completed and all right-of-way needs have been identified.

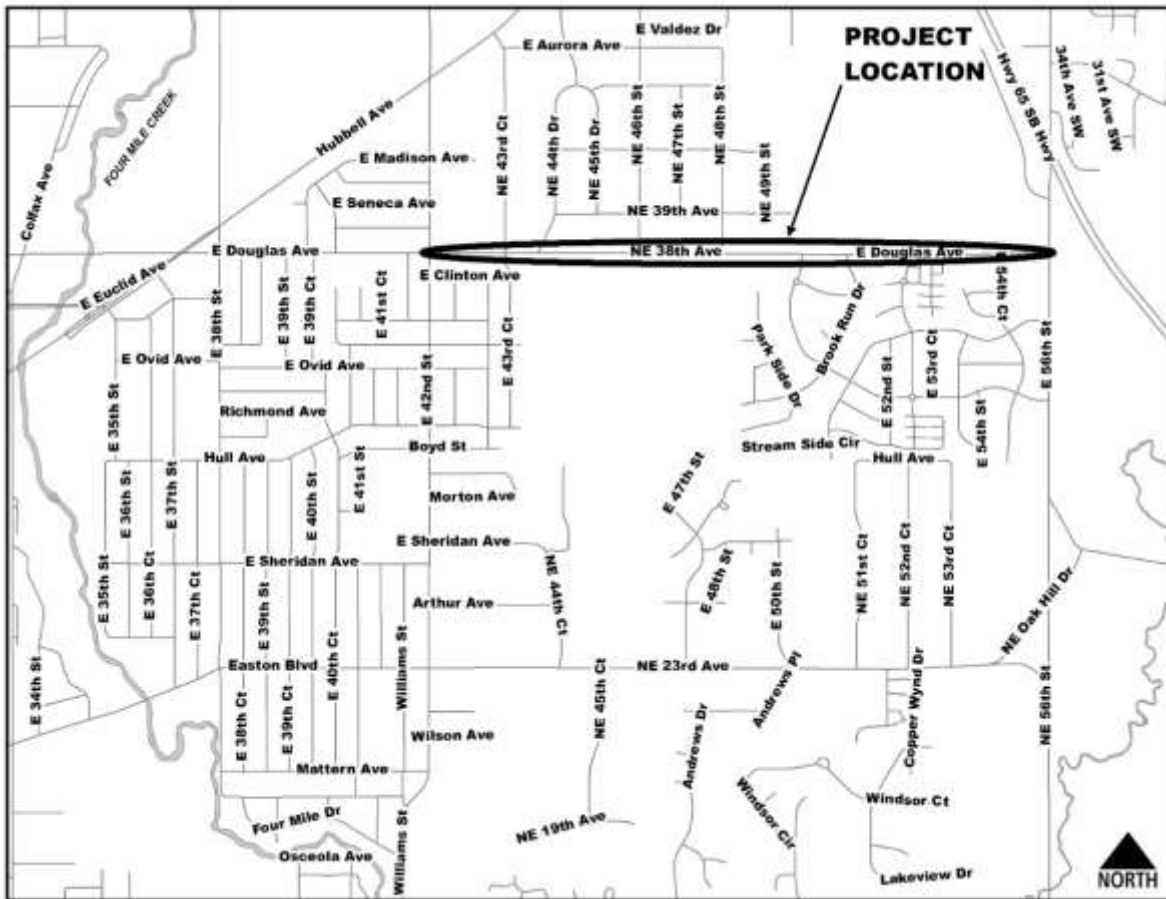
Funding Source: 2019-20 CIP, Page Street Improvements – 6, East Douglas Avenue Widening – E. 42nd – E. 56th, ST270.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Existing East Douglas Avenue is a rural 2-lane roadway with drainage ditches and has no pedestrian or bicycle accommodations.
- Northeast Des Moines is experiencing significant growth and East Douglas Avenue is in need of reconstruction.
- This project includes approximately 1.5-miles of roadway improvements to East Douglas Avenue from East 42nd Street to East 56th Street, which include complete pavement reconstruction to a new urban 2-lane cross section with new curbs and gutters, storm sewer and drainage improvements, and a new shared-use path along the south side of East Douglas Avenue. The project will also grade the adjacent right-of-way for the construction of a potential future sidewalk on the north side of East Douglas Avenue. This project will also look

at improving storm water management along East Douglas Avenue to alleviate storm water flows from, and along, East Douglas Avenue into the Brook Run Neighborhood.

- Original concepts for East Douglas Avenue called for a 3-lane roadway with bike lanes and shared use path; however, City staff and MoveDSM recommend a 2-lane roadway (without bike lanes) and a separate shared use path based upon the following:
  - Projected traffic volumes in 2040 are estimated to be 6,100 vehicles per day, which is well below the 11,600 vehicles-per-day capacity of a typical 2-lane roadway with light residential side friction (SUDAS Design Manual Table 5C-2.03).
  - There are no documented safety concerns or trends along East Douglas Avenue and all intersections along East Douglas Avenue from East 42nd Street to East 56th Street are below the statewide average for intersection crash rates.
  - Posted speed limits on East Douglas Avenue are 30 MPH from East 42nd Street to East 43rd Court and 35 MPH from East 43rd Court to East 56th Street; however, City staff have collected speed data showing a majority of vehicles are traveling over 40 MPH. City staff believe adding a third lane would increase speeds even more.
  - The separate shared-use path will provide a much needed connection between neighborhoods and Brook Run Park and will accommodate both cyclists and pedestrians.
- On March 7, 2019, under provisions of Iowa Code Sections 6B.2A and 6B.2D, notices of the proposed resolution authorizing acquisition of agricultural land by eminent domain for public improvement purposes were mailed to each affected agricultural land property owner, contract purchaser of record and any tenants known to be occupying the properties required for the project.
- The affected property owners have the right to attend the City Council Meeting on April 8, 2019 and to voice any objections to the proposed acquisition of the properties.
- The acquisition of several partial and temporary property interests will be needed for the implementation of this project, the extent of which will be determined after design has been completed. Relocation assistance will not be required for this project.



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: September 24, 2018

Roll Call Number: [18-1568](#)

Action: [Approving](#) and authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) agreement for East Douglas Avenue Widening from E. 42nd Street to E. 56th Street. ([Council Communication No. 18-477](#)) Moved by Westergaard to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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