

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	20-339	Meeting:	August 3, 2020
	Agenda Item:	27	Roll Call:	20-1226
	Submitted by:	Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Traffic Safety Fund Application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization to submit an application to the IDOT for FY2022 Traffic Safety Funds for the East University Avenue and East 30th Street Intersection Improvements project. The IDOT has an annual program to provide funds for Traffic Safety Fund improvements. The deadline for this year's application is August 15, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: Estimated \$1,000,000. Traffic Safety Funds in the amount of \$307,000 are being requested for this project.

Funding Source:

- \$357,000 – Traffic Safety Fund Request
- \$643,000 (remaining amount pending funding awarded) – 2020-2021 CIP, Page Street Improvements – 10, East 30th Street and University Avenue

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The IDOT implemented an annual program beginning in 1988 to provide for traffic safety improvements. These improvements may include roadway construction projects to correct high-crash locations, upgrading of obsolete traffic control devices to comply with the requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, or traffic studies to determine how to correct a safety problem. Since the program began, Des Moines has been successful in securing over \$21 million in Traffic Safety Funds for 87 projects, including several major intersection improvements, traffic signal upgrades, and other safety projects. Applications are currently being accepted until August 15, 2020, for the next programming cycle.
- Staff has reviewed potential projects and recommends the East University Avenue and East 30th Street Intersection Improvements project be submitted for Traffic Safety Funds. This intersection was ranked 12th on the IDOT's Statewide Improvement Candidate List (SICL), which identifies the locations throughout the state in need of safety improvements. This project

includes safety improvements, traffic signal equipment replacement, and capacity improvements.

- Identified improvements include:
 - Traffic signal equipment replacement, traffic signal retiming including the yellow change and red clearance intervals, and the addition of protected/permissive southbound left-turn phase with flashing yellow arrow.
 - Median and pavement marking modifications to offset all left-turn lanes to create positive offset and better sight lines for drivers
 - Removal of right-turn channelizing islands/medians to provide better crossing experience for pedestrians and remove traffic signal poles from islands.
 - Removal of yield-controlled northbound right-turn slip lane and construction of traditional northbound right-turn lane.
 - Pedestrian crossing improvements, including reconstruction pedestrian ramps at all corners of the intersection.

- The estimated project cost for construction is \$1,000,000 with Traffic Safety Funds in the amount of \$357,000 being requested. The Traffic Safety Funds would cover the improvements related to the traffic signal equipment replacement and the median and pavement marking modifications to offset all left-turn lanes.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

If approved by the IDOT for funding, project agreements would be presented to City Council for consideration.

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