


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	21-321	Meeting:	July 19, 2021
	Agenda Item:	12	Roll Call:	21-1091
	Submitted by:	Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Traffic Safety Fund application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization to submit an application to the IDOT for FY2023 Traffic Safety Funds for the 2nd Avenue Reconstruction from University Avenue to the Des Moines River 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, 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Estimated Total Project Costs:

Roadway Reconstruction (Includes realignment of east legs of intersections of Forest Avenue and Clark Street)	\$8,500,000
Storm Sewer Construction	\$3,000,000
Property Acquisition	\$3,500,000
Engineering Design & Construction Administration (Includes professional services agreement costs)	\$1,500,000
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Estimated Total Project Costs	\$16,500,000

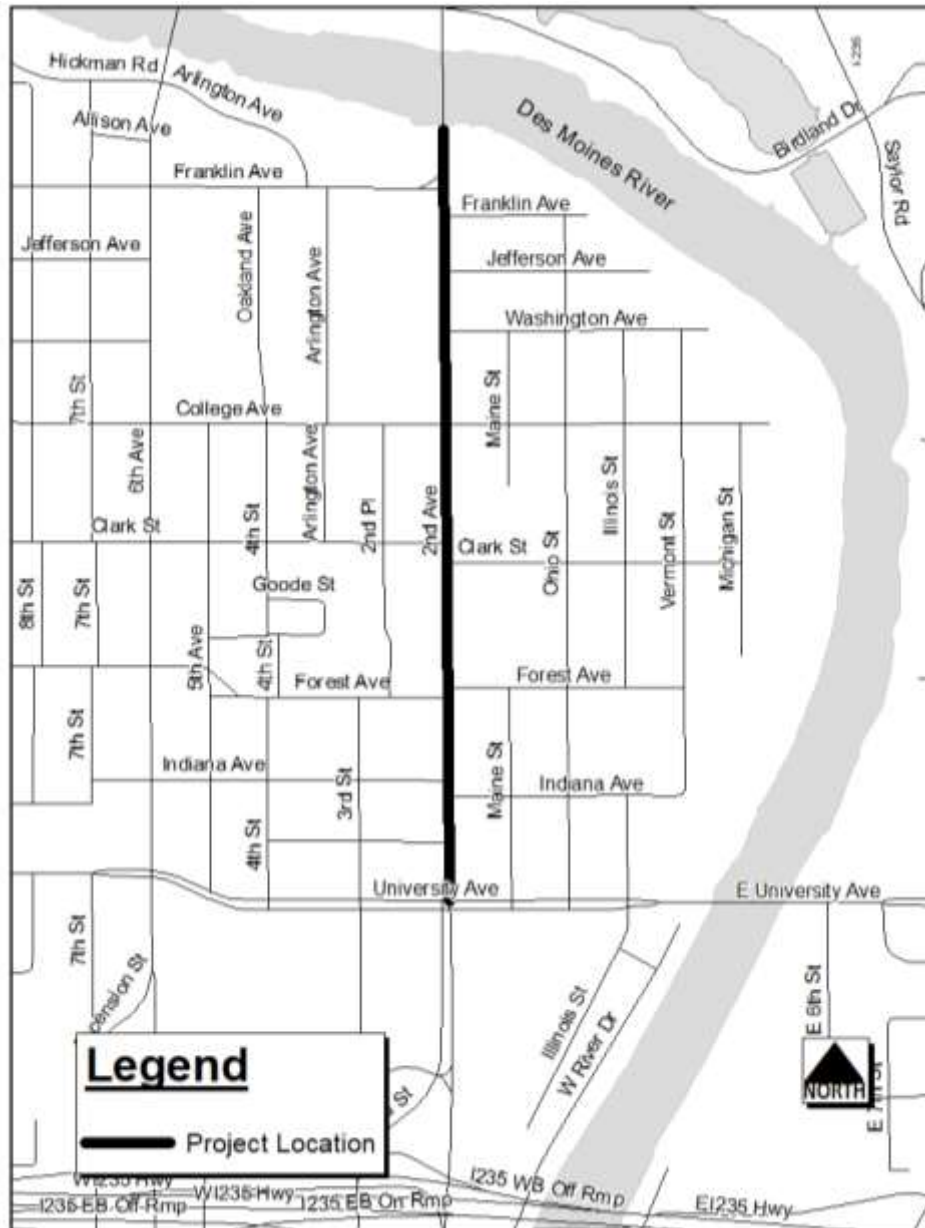
Traffic Safety Funds in the amount of \$500,000 are being requested for this project.

Funding Source:

- \$500,000 – Traffic Safety Fund Request.
- \$16 million (remaining amount pending funding awarded) – 2021-2022 CIP, Page 129, Roadway Reconstruction – Second Avenue, ST277, Tax Increment Bonds.

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, 2021, for the next programming cycle.
- Staff has reviewed potential projects and recommends the 2nd Avenue Reconstruction from University Avenue to the Des Moines Project be submitted for Traffic Safety Funds. A traffic study completed in 2019 identified the 2nd Avenue corridor as experiencing high crash rates. The proposed 2nd Avenue Reconstruction project would help address intersection crashes by providing dedicated left turn lanes and realigning the offset intersections of Forest Avenue and Clark Avenue.
- The Concept Plan developed for the 2nd Avenue Reconstruction project includes:
 - Pavement Reconstruction - Full pavement reconstruction of a 4-lane with 11-foot wide lanes, new curbs and gutters and new 5-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides.
 - Forest Avenue Realignment - Realignment of the east leg of Forest Avenue at the intersection of 2nd Avenue to align with the west leg of Forest Avenue at the intersection of 2nd Avenue.
 - Clark Street Realignment - Realignment of the east leg of Clark Street at the intersection of 2nd Avenue to align with the west leg of Clark Street at the intersection of 2nd Avenue.
 - Left-Turn Lanes at Select Intersections - Adding left-turn lanes at the following intersections along 2nd Avenue:
 - Franklin Avenue (2nd Avenue northbound left-turn lane)
 - College Avenue (2nd Avenue northbound and southbound left-turn lanes)
 - Forest Avenue (2nd Avenue northbound and southbound left-turn lanes)
 - Access Control Improvements - Eliminate and/or consolidate driveway accesses along the corridor to reduce the number of conflict points and turning movements along the corridor.
- The estimated project cost for construction is \$16.5 million with Traffic Safety Funds in the amount of \$500,000 being requested. The Traffic Safety Funds would cover a portion of the costs to construct left-turn lanes at select intersections and realign the intersections of Forest Avenue and Clark Street.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 18, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-0809](#), and [20-0810](#)

Action: Items regarding the proposed 2nd Avenue Reconstruction from University Avenue to the Des Moines River: ([Council Communication No. 20-220](#))

- (A) [Approving](#) the concept plan. Moved by Gray to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Voss.
- (B) [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Bolton & Menk, Inc., not to exceed \$485,929. Moved by Gray to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Voss.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Transportation Safety Committee

Date: July 9, 2019

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Motion was made by Jim Windsor to approve the 2nd Avenue Reconstruction from University Avenue to the Des Moines River Concept Plan for a 4-lane roadway section with turn lanes at select intersections and access control measures along the corridor, seconded by Blake Hanson. Motion passed 7:1. Opposed: Dave Ferree (preferred 5-lane).

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

If approved by the IDOT for funding, project agreements would be presented to City Council for consideration. City staff anticipates actions related to construction, including ordering construction.

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