


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	22-072	Meeting:	March 7, 2022
	Agenda Item:	8	Roll Call:	22-0297
	Submitted by:	Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Bolton & Menk, Inc. for professional services for the Merle Hay Road – Hickman Road to Aurora Avenue Corridor Study, for an amount not to exceed \$124,825.

SYNOPSIS:

Approving the PSA with Bolton & Menk, Inc. for a total cost not to exceed \$124,825, based on hourly billing rates, to prepare a traffic engineering study of Merle Hay Road from Hickman Road to Aurora Avenue to identify and recommend long-term and short-term roadway improvements to address safety concerns, multi-modal traffic operations and flow, access control, and anticipated traffic changes based on the existing and future adjacent land development.

FISCAL IMPACT:

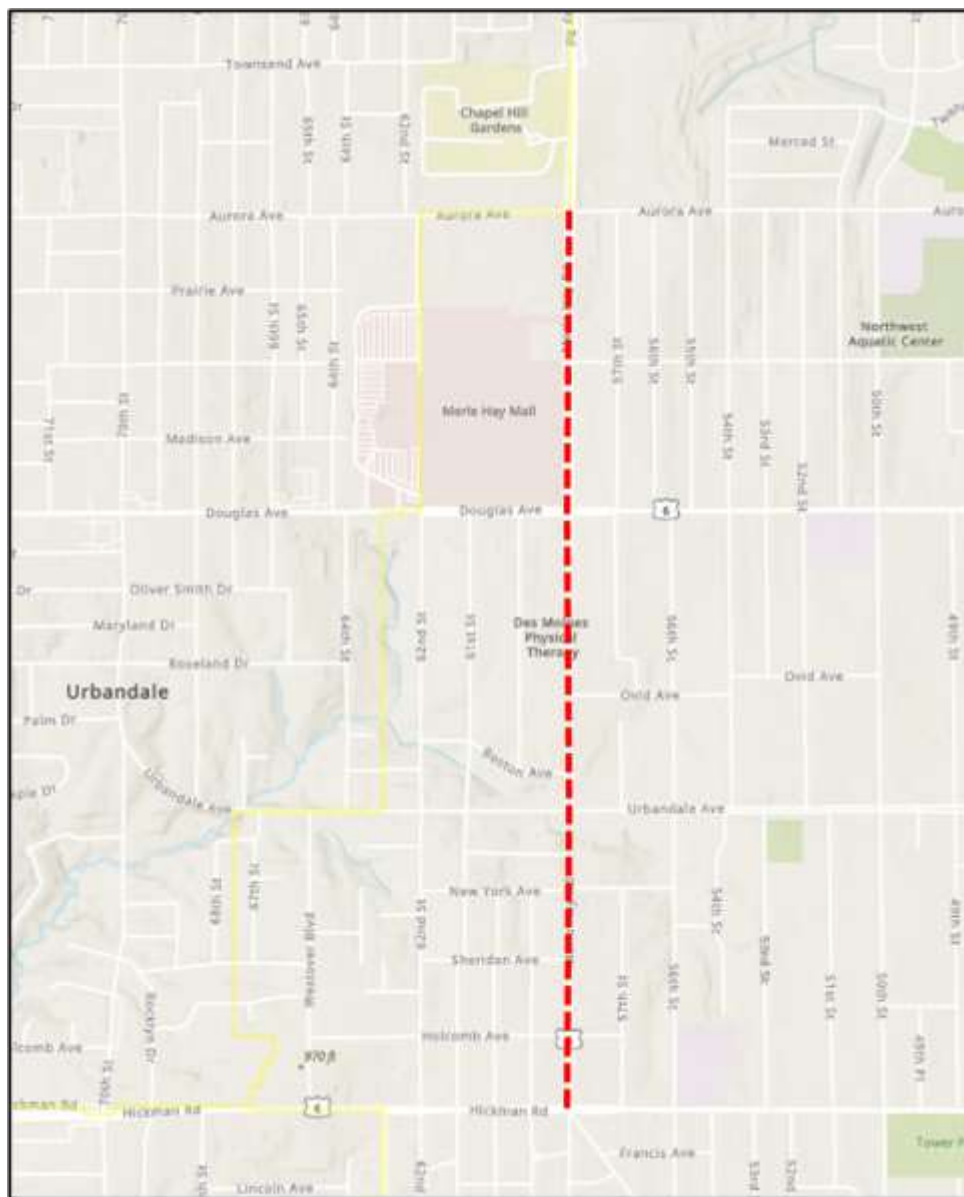
Amount: \$124,825

Funding Source: 2021-2022 CIP, Page 156, Merle Hay Corridor Plan, ST306, Tax Increment Funding Bonds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Merle Hay Road is an important commercial and retail corridor on the northwest side of the City of Des Moines. Merle Hay Mall, which occupies the west parcels of Merle Hay Road from Aurora Avenue to Douglas Avenue, is in the midst of a major redevelopment project which includes plans for a hockey arena, housing for senior citizens, a new Kohl's department store, added retail space, and additional upgrades to the mall.
- Merle Hay Road between Aurora Avenue and Douglas Avenue is currently a mix of 4-lane, 5-lane, 6-lane and 7-lane cross-sections along the corridor with sporadic sidewalk facilities.
- The Merle Hay Neighborhood Association (MHNA) has made requests to City Council and City staff for planning assistance to revitalize and enhance the Merle Hay corridor.
- A traffic study will be the first step as part of the corridor planning effort. The extents of the traffic study are shown in the map below.

- A Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional services for the Merle Hay Road – Hickman Road to Aurora Avenue Corridor Study was issued and posted on the City’s website. A selection committee of Engineering Department staff reviewed and rated the six (6) proposals received in response to the RFP. Bolton & Menk, Inc. was selected based upon the selection criteria in the RFP and their thorough project approach, understanding, and related project experience.
- City staff has negotiated a PSA with Bolton & Menk, Inc. for a total cost not to exceed \$124,825, based on hourly rates, to prepare a traffic engineering study of Merle Hay Road from Hickman Road to Aurora Avenue to identify and recommend long-term and short-term roadway improvements to address safety concerns, improve multi-modal traffic operations and flow, access control, and anticipated traffic changes based on the existing and future adjacent land development. Scope of work under the PSA includes traffic data collection, crash analysis, speed study, operational analysis, safety analysis, and development of conceptual recommended improvements for the project corridor.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Funding of future improvements needed to the Merle Hay Road corridor based on the results and recommendations of the study.

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