


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	22-369	Meeting:	August 8, 2022
	Agenda Item:	9	Roll Call:	22-1225
	Submitted by:	Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the SE 36th Street and E Army Post Road Roundabout Project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization to submit an application to the IDOT for FY2024 TSIP funding for the SE 36th Street and E Army Post Road Roundabout project. The IDOT has an annual program to provide funds for traffic safety improvements. The maximum request for funding per project is \$500,000. The deadline for this year's application is August 15, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Estimated Total Project Costs:

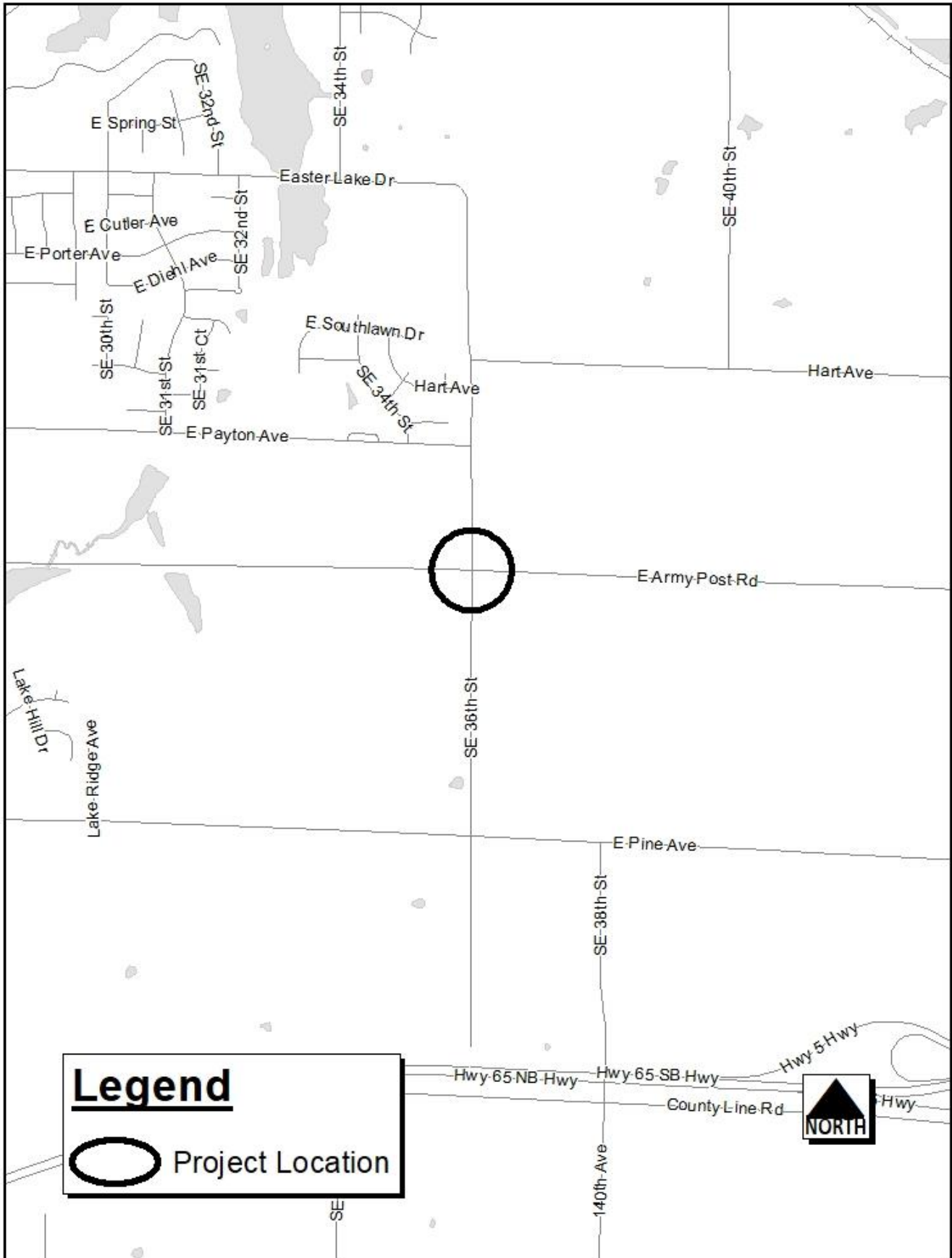
Construction Costs	\$2,000,000
Property Acquisition	\$25,000
Engineering Design & Construction Administration <i>(Includes Professional Services Agreement Costs)</i>	\$475,000
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Estimated Total Project Costs	\$2,500,000

Funding Source:

- \$500,000 – Traffic Safety Improvement Program Funding Request.
- \$2 million (remaining amount pending funding awarded) – 2022-2023 CIP, Page 155, E Army Post Road & SE 36th Street Intersection Improvement, ST303, G.O. Bonds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The IDOT implemented an annual program beginning in 1988 to provide for statewide 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 funding, including several major intersection improvements, traffic signal upgrades, and other safety projects. Applications are currently being accepted until August 15, 2022, for the next programming cycle.
- Funding requests may be up to \$500,000 per project. Available funding for the Traffic Safety Improvement program varies by year, but past funding ranges have been between \$5 and \$6 million. Historically, the State of Iowa has received applications for more funding than available.
- Staff has reviewed potential projects and recommends the SE 36th Street and E Army Post Road Roundabout Project be submitted for TSIP Funds. A traffic study completed in 2020 identified significant traffic growth on the north approach of the intersection as well as safety and speeding issues on E Army Post Road. Based on E Army Post Road's history of fatal and serious injuries from crashes, observed speeding along the corridor, and traffic growth in the area, the conversion from a 2-way stop-controlled intersection to a roundabout will enhance safety by reducing speeds and reducing the severity of crashes by eliminating broadside and angle crashes, while also optimizing the efficiency of the traffic operations.
- The roundabout is planned to be a single lane roundabout with one (1) lane entering and exiting each approach. Due to the existing 55-mph speed limit on E Army Post, the roundabout will be designed with extended approach splitter islands with curvature to gradually reduce vehicle speeds from free flow speeds to 20 mph through the roundabout.
- A virtual public meeting was held on July 14, 2020 to review and discuss the proposed project and gather input from affected parties and interested members of the public.
- The estimated project cost for construction is \$2.5 million with TSIP funds in the amount of \$500,000 being requested. The TSIP Funds would cover a portion of the costs to construct the roundabout. Receipt of TSIP Funding would provide for construction of the SE 36th Street and E Army Post Road Roundabout project to start in FY 2025.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 27, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-0977](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC for the E. Army Post Road and SE 36th Street Roundabout, not to exceed \$299,534. ([Council Communication No. 22-308](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1.
Absent: Sheumaker.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Transportation Safety Committee

Date: November 10, 2020

Resolution Number: 1

Action: Motion was made by Tom Desio to approve the roundabout concept for the intersection improvements at E Army Post Road and SE 36th Street, seconded by Scott Bents. Motion passed 6:0.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

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

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