


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	24-365	Meeting:	September 16, 2024
	Agenda Item:	9	Roll Call:	24-1216
	Submitted by:	Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of a Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSRR) Agreement for the Southeast Connector Project from SE 30th Street to US Highway 65, estimated at \$1,316,154.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of an agreement with NSRR (650 West Peachtree Street, NW, Box 45, Atlanta, Georgia 30308) to permit the City of Des Moines to enter the railway's right-of-way for renewal of an existing at-grade crossing at SE 30th Street and CB & Q Street (i.e., approximately 1190 SE 30th), renewal of at-grade crossing at Vandalia Road on the east side of SE 43rd Street, and renewal of the existing flood control closure structure and associated levee north of Vandalia Road.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$1,316,154

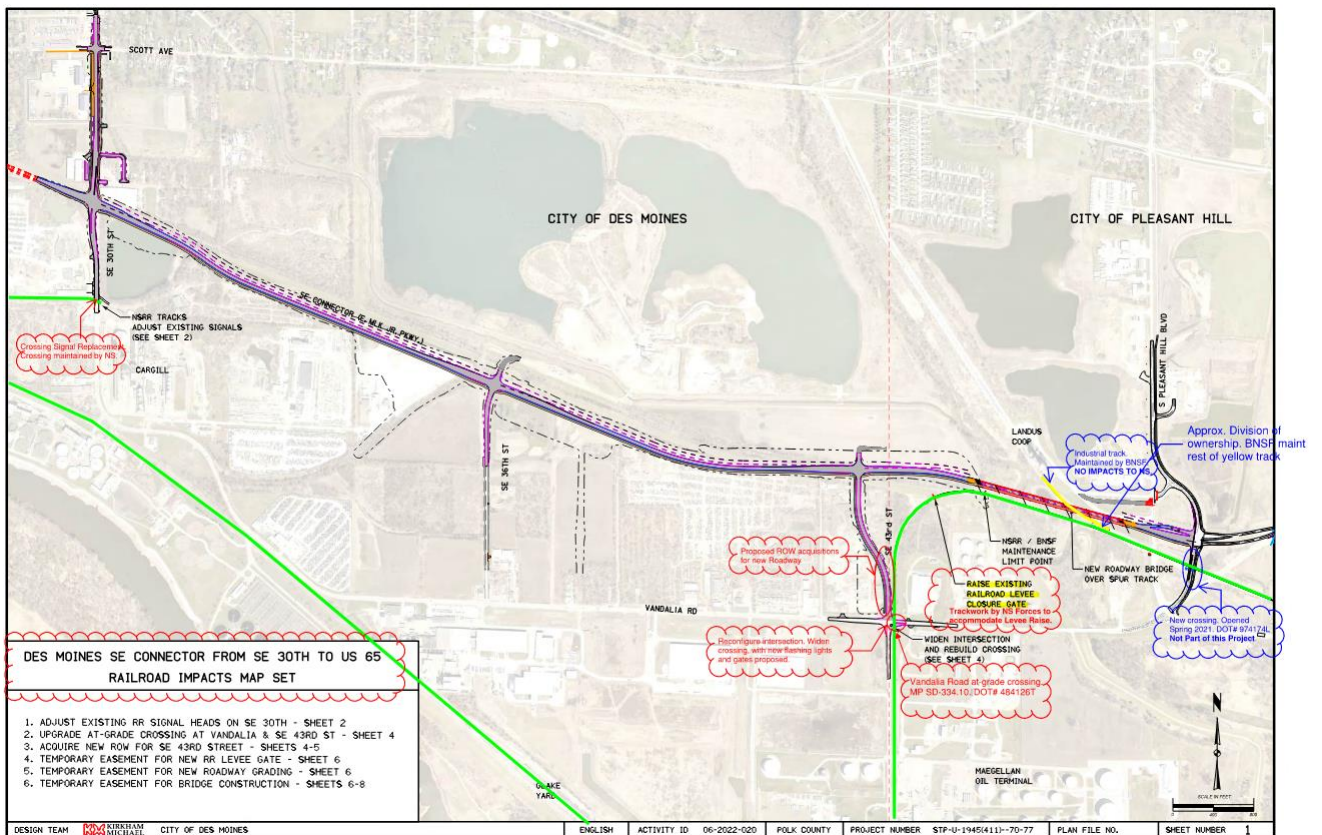
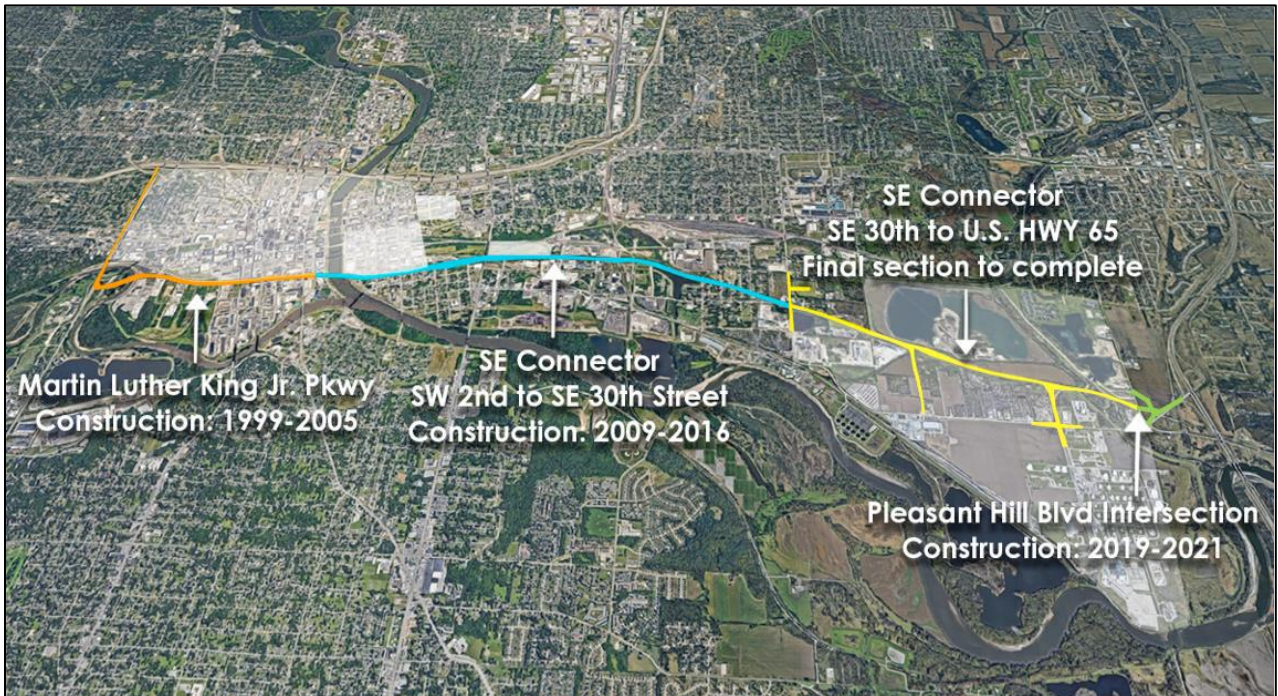
Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 104, Southeast Connector, ST256, Being: G.O. Bonds, and Tax Increment Funding Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The Southeast Connector project from SE 30th Street to U.S. Highway 65 provides for the extension of the Southeast Connector and east/west segment of Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway from SE 30th Street to U.S. Highway 65. The project is a joint effort with the City of Pleasant Hill.
- The City applied for a United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) discretionary grant in 2023 for an amount of \$34M. The City was notified by the USDOT in January 2024 that its application had been approved for the full amount of \$34M. The City Council will consider approving the INFRA grant agreement at a future Council meeting.
- The agreement with NSRR provides for construction of the Southeast Connector project across or adjacent to NSRR facilities, generally located between SE 30th Street and U.S. Highway 65. The agreement includes terms for railroad engineering services, replacement of railroad crossing signals and warning devices at two (2) at-grade railroad crossings, modifications to an existing flood control structure and associated levee work, and terms for maintenance and repairs after the project

is completed. Costs for work performed by the railroad to improve these facilities will be based on actual expenses.

- The Agreement includes coordination with NSRR personnel for construction activities, submittal reviews, and maintaining railroad operations.
- Upon completion of the project, NSRR shall own and, at its own cost and expense, maintain the railroad project improvements.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 17, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-0846](#)

Action: [Authorizing](#) the purchase of 1,668 stream bank credits from Bunker Stream Mitigation Bank, Central Indiana Mitigation Providers, LLC, owner and seller, for Southeast Connector project from SE 30th Street to U.S. Highway 65, \$158,460. ([Council Communication No. 24-269](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Additional agreements with NSRR and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) to include track protection services, such as the use of railroad flaggers and railroad observers during construction, will require approval by Council or the City Engineer.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.