


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	<b>24-396</b>	Meeting:	<b>October 7, 2024</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>9C</b>	Roll Call:	<b>24-1335</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Agreement for the Southeast Connector project between SE 30th Street and U.S. Highway 65.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of IDOT Agreement No. 1-24-HDP-030 between the City of Des Moines and IDOT to utilize Federal Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Program funds to assist in constructing the Southeast Connector project between SE 30th Street and U.S. Highway 65.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$59,000,000

Funding Source: Various funding sources, as follows:

- \$34,000,000 – INFRA Grant
- \$11,284,000 – Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding allocated by the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- \$13,716,000 – Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 104, Southeast Connector – SE 30th Street to U.S. Highway 65, ST256, G.O. Bonds, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Bonds and Proceeds from Federal Title 23 Excess Land Sales

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- In January 2024, the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) announced proposed grant awards totaling \$2.9 billion for 28 projects as part of the FY 2023-2024 INFRA Program. There were 191 project applications submitted that requested over \$24 billion. The Southeast Connector: SE 30th to U.S. Highway 65 was selected to receive \$34 million from the INFRA Program.
- The INFRA Grant Agreement establishes the local match for construction at 23 percent (23%). Overall, Federal funding is limited to 80 percent (80%) funding of the eligible construction costs.

INFRA funding is limited to 60 percent (60%) of eligible costs. Federal funding will be reduced if project costs underrun.

- With this being a federal project, the distribution of these INFRA funds will be administered by the IDOT. As a result, an agreement between the IDOT and the City spelling out the terms of funds' utilization must be executed prior to receiving any funds.
- Additionally, the Des Moines MPO has allocated \$11,284,000 of its portion of Federal STBG funds to the City of Des Moines for its use in financing construction of the SE Connector Project.
- Completion of the final segment of the Southeast Connector between SE 30th Street and U.S. Highway 65 will improve freight movement through the area by connecting the National Highway System from Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway and SE 14th Street (U.S. Highway 69) and U.S. Highway 65 to serve area businesses and the transload facility. This will directly result in more efficient and lower cost shipping for the region.
- The final 2.2-mile-segment of the Southeast Connector (SE 30th – U.S. Highway 65) includes two (2) lanes of roadway [one (1) lane in each direction], a 1,515-foot-long bridge, multi-use trail, the relocation and improvement of 4,000 feet of the SE Des Moines Levee system, storm water enhancements, as well as right-of-way and grading for future expansion of the roadway if future traffic volumes warrant.
- The Southeast Connector: SE 30th to U.S. Highway 65 is currently planned to be bid by IDOT in early 2025. The estimated construction project amount is \$59,000,000, with INFRA funds in the amount of \$34,000,000, and additional Federal STBG funding in the amount of \$11,284,000. Construction will begin in 2025 following contract award.



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: August 7, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-1063](#)

Action: [Approving](#) and authorizing an application for a DOT INFRA Grant for the Southeast Connector Project between SE 30th Street and U.S. Highway 65. ([Council Communication No. 23-370](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Anticipated actions include agreements with railroads, ordering construction, public hearing, receive and file bids, designate lowest bidder, and approve contract and bond; also partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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