


## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>25-152</b>	Meeting:	<b>April 21, 2025</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>7</b>	Roll Call:	<b>25-0557</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer</b>		

### AGENDA HEADING:

Ordering construction of the following: Masonic Cemetery Road Improvements - Receiving bids, (5-6-25), and Setting date of hearing, (6-9-25). (Construction Estimate - \$747,000).

### SYNOPSIS:

Recommend the City Council order construction of the improvement and set dates to receive bids and hold a public hearing, as required by Iowa Code, utilizing the method of financing referenced below. This public improvement project includes pavement surface scarification and Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) paving to extend the useful service life of roads in the Masonic Cemetery. The project also includes installing storm sewer, storm intake, and new Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) curbs along the Masonic Cemetery entrance drive.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

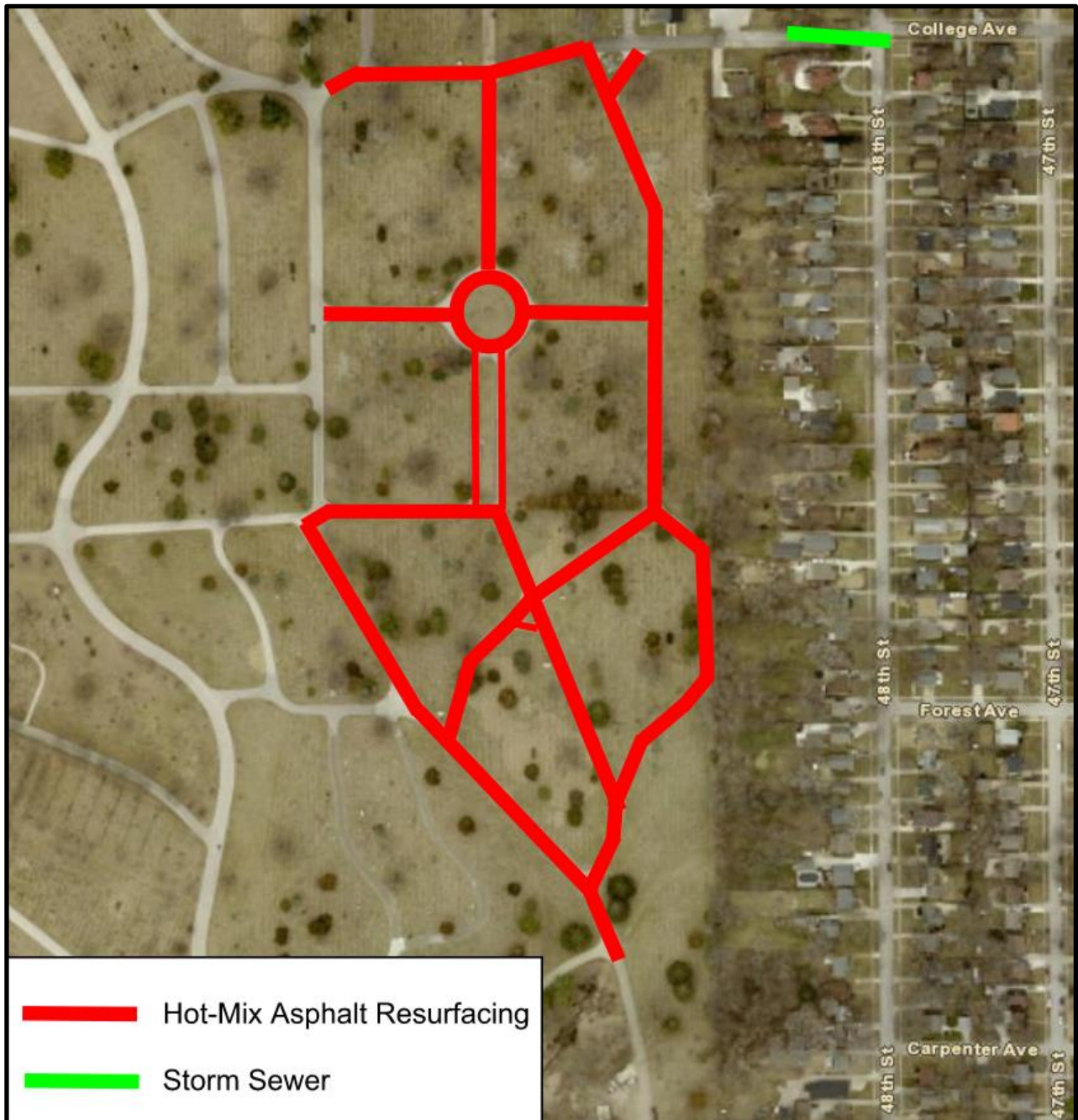
Amount: \$747,000 City Engineer's Estimate

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 83, Park Infrastructure, PK175, Being: G.O. Bonds and cemetery land sale proceeds transferred from PK138 (Cemetery Infrastructure and Improvements)

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The Engineering Department has prepared plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Masonic Cemetery Road Improvements, Activity ID 11-2024-011. The improvement includes removal of existing HMA pavement and surfacing materials by milling/scarifying to an average depth of three (3) inches, prepare subgrade/subbase, reconstruct pavements with three (3) inches of HMA pavement in one (1) lift, storm sewer, storm intake, and beam curb, all in accordance with the contract documents including Plan File No. 674-071/082, located at the Masonic Cemetery west of the intersection of College Avenue and 48th Street.
- The estimated construction cost is \$747,000. The proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents are available for public inspection in the Des Moines City Engineer's Office.

- The Masonic Cemetery was founded in 1920 and has over 12,500 interments and covers over 32 acres.
- In 2023, the Masonic Cemetery Association requested transfer of ownership, management, and assets to the City through a voluntary transfer, a process recommended by the Iowa Insurance Division which oversees Perpetual Care Cemeteries through the Iowa Cemetery Act.
- The cemetery will remain open during construction. Contract documents specify the contractor to pause work during burial events to help reduce noise and provide consideration for those events.
- This project is anticipated to be completed by the fall of 2025.



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: July 17, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0982](#)

Action: [Accepting](#) transfer of ownership and control of Des Moines Masonic Cemetery from Cemetery Board of Directors and dedication of the property located at 1550 48th Street as Cemetery. [\(Council Communication No. 23-335\)](#) 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 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.

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](mailto:cityclerk@dmgov.org).