


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	25-169	Meeting:	May 5, 2025
	Agenda Item:	7	Roll Call:	25-0636
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Agreement for the Central Place Trail Phase II project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of IDOT Agreement 25-TAP-120 between the City of Des Moines and IDOT for the Central Place Trail Phase II project for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) and Federal Recreational Trails (FRT) Program funding.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$4,000,000 Estimated Cost

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 92, Central Place Trail, PK193, Being: \$1,300,000 in TAP Funds, \$300,000 in FRT funds, \$150,000 in Private Contributions, \$1,420,000 in anticipated additional external grant funding, and \$830,000 in General Obligation (G.O.) bonds transferred from PK045 Multi-Use Trails

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- This project includes constructing approximately 1.8-miles of new multi-use trail section along the west bank of the Des Moines River and City right-of-way between the intersection of 2nd Avenue and Franklin Avenue and the intersection of the Inter-Urban and Trestle to Trestle multi-use trails. The new trail spine will be a 10-foot-wide concrete section. An approximate 0.3-miles long neighborhood service trail spur will be an eight (8)-foot-wide granular section. The project also includes a five (5) to three (3)-lane conversion on Hickman Road between 6th Avenue and Prospect Road as recommended by MoveDSM and a subsequent traffic study that was completed early 2023. The project is estimated to cost \$4,000,000 with design occurring in 2024-2025 and anticipated construction to occur in 2027-2028.
- The Parks and Recreation Department operating budget supports the on-going maintenance and operation of this proposed trail section by trail staff dedicated to these important tasks.

- Informed by LiveDSM, the Parks and Recreation Department's adopted comprehensive plan, and the Future Core Bike Network from MoveDSM, the City of Des Moines' Transportation Master Plan, the Central Place Trail Phase II is an equity-focused project that will serve an area experiencing among the highest degrees of disadvantage per the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) 2021 Environmental Justice Area mapping and analysis.
- Broadlawns Medical Center agreed to make a charitable contribution in the total amount of \$150,000 to the City for construction of the project by the City. The City shall use Broadlawns Medical Center funds provided pursuant to the approved agreement solely for construction of the project and for no other purpose.
- Broadlawns Medical Center shall have recognition along the trail at a designated and approved trail hub kiosk sign, which will acknowledge Broadlawns Medical Center's gift, subject to approval by the City's Director of Parks and Recreation.
- The City of Des Moines multi-use trail counters logged an estimated 3.3 million trail uses in 2024 across the system. It is anticipated that this number will increase year by year as the system continues to grow and gaps such as the one filled by this project are completed.
- On December 6, 2021, by Roll Call No. 21-1792, Council authorized the submittal of Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and TAP, also known as STBG Set-Aside Program, FY2026 applications to the MPO, which included requesting \$500,000 in FY2026 TAP funds for the Central Place Levee Trail Phase 2.
- On October 3, 2022, by Roll Call No. 22-1494, Council ratified the IDOT FRT funding grant application to add \$300,000 for the Central Place Trail Phase II project.
- On April 24, 2023, by Roll Call No. 23-0596, Council approved a Donation Agreement with Broadlawns Medical Center for Central Place Trail Phase II in the amount of \$150,000 towards the project's construction for the health benefits of the residents of Des Moines.
- IDOT has awarded \$1,300,000 in TAP funding and \$300,000 in FRT funding for the Central Place Trail Phase II, so an agreement with IDOT is required for administration and receipt of the TAP and FRT funding.
- The estimated project costs for the Central Place Trail Phase II project are \$4,000,000, with TAP and FRT combined funds in the amount of \$1,600,000. The project is anticipated to begin construction in early 2027.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 24, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0596](#)

Action: [Donation](#) Agreement with Broadlawns Medical Center for Central Place Levee Trail Phase II. ([Council Communication No. 23-202](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.

Date: October 3, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-1494](#)

Action: [Ratification](#) of the IDOT FRT funding grant application by the Parks and Recreation Department seeking \$300,000 for the Central Place Levee Trail Phase II project. ([Council Communication No. 22-449](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: December 6, 2021

Roll Call Number: [21-1792](#)

Action: [Authorizing](#) submittal of Federal STBG and TAP, also known as STBG Set-Aside Program, FY2026 applications to the MPO. ([Council Communication No. 21-511](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Anticipated actions include acceptance of additional grant funding, 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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