COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Number:	**25-224**	Meeting:	**June 9, 2025**
Agenda Item:	**9**	Roll Call:	**25-0806**
Submitted by:	**Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer**		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Agreement for the East Army Post Road from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of IDOT Agreement 1-25-STPU-018 between the City of Des Moines and IDOT for Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) pavement replacement on East Army Post Road from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funding. Proposed improvements include reconstruction of the roadway to a three (3)-lane, urban cross-section, storm sewer, construction of a shared-use path on the north side, filling in sidewalk gaps on the south side, and medians for access management where possible. Proposed improvements also include a roundabout at the intersection with Three Lakes Parkway to coincide with the planned roundabout at SE 36th Street and East Army Post Road.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: $12,000,000 Estimated Cost

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 138, East Army Post Road SE 14th to SE 36th Corridor, ST293, Being: $5,200,000 in STBG Funds and $6,800,000 in G.O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- In 2022, a traffic study was completed for the East Army Post Road corridor from SE 14th Street to the east corporate limits. The purpose of the study was to evaluate existing and proposed conditions along the corridor and recommend improvements to address traffic safety and future development. The study showed that over 200 crashes occurred on the entire study corridor over a five (5)-year period, with the segment between SE 14th Street and Indianola Avenue experiencing a crash rate 30% higher than the statewide average for similar corridors.

- East Army Post Road, east of SE 14th Street, is a two (2)-lane roadway with a rural cross section and no pedestrian or bicycle facilities.

- While improvements are recommended for the entire corridor between SE 14th Street and the east corporate limits, based on the high crash rate, existing commercial development and planned Exodus development in this area, Engineering staff recommended phasing improvements beginning with the section between SE 14th Street and Indianola Avenue. Proposed improvements include reconstruction of the roadway to a three (3)-lane, urban cross-section, storm sewer, construction of a shared-use path on the north side, filling in sidewalk gaps on the south side, and medians for access management where possible.

- Proposed improvements also include a roundabout at the intersection with Three Lakes Parkway to coincide with the planned roundabout at SE 36th Street and East Army Post Road.

- On December 12, 2022, by Roll Call No. 22-1859, City Council authorized the submittal of Federal STBG FY2027 applications to the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), which included requesting $4,000,000 in STBG Funds for the East Army Post Road Improvements—Southeast 14th Street to Indianola Avenue project. The City was awarded $2,600,000 in FY2027 STBG Funds for the project.

- On December 18, 2023, by Roll Call No. 23-1738, City Council authorized the submittal of Federal STBG FY2028 applications to the MPO, which included requesting $2,900,000 in STBG Funds for the East Army Post Road Improvements—Southeast 14th Street to Indianola Avenue project. The City was awarded $2,600,000 in FY 2028 STBG Funds for the project.

- IDOT has awarded a total of $5,200,000 in STBG Funds for the East Army Post Road Improvements from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue for PCC pavement replacement, so an agreement with IDOT is required for administration and receipt of the STBG funding.

- The estimated project costs for the East Army Post Road Improvements from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue project are $12,000,000, with STBG funds in the amount of $5,200,000. The project is anticipated to begin construction in 2027.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: December 18, 2023

Roll Call Number: 23-1738

Action: Approving submittal of Federal STBG Program and STBG Set-aside Program FY2028 applications to the MPO. (Council Communication No. 23-564) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Anticipated actions include 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 or work.

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