


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	25-230	Meeting:	June 9, 2025
	Agenda Item:	55	Roll Call:	<input type="text"/>
	Submitted by:	Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Hold public hearing on the intent to commence a public improvement project to construct the E. Army Post Road Reconstruction from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue project and to authorize acquisition of the necessary property interests, including agricultural land, for the project by gift, negotiation, or eminent domain.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of authorization to proceed with acquisition of the necessary property interests for the E. Army Post Road Reconstruction from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue project by gift, negotiation, or eminent domain. This action is required by Iowa law when agricultural property is proposed for acquisition, before the City can initiate the property acquisition process for this project under eminent domain. Relocation assistance will not be required for this project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

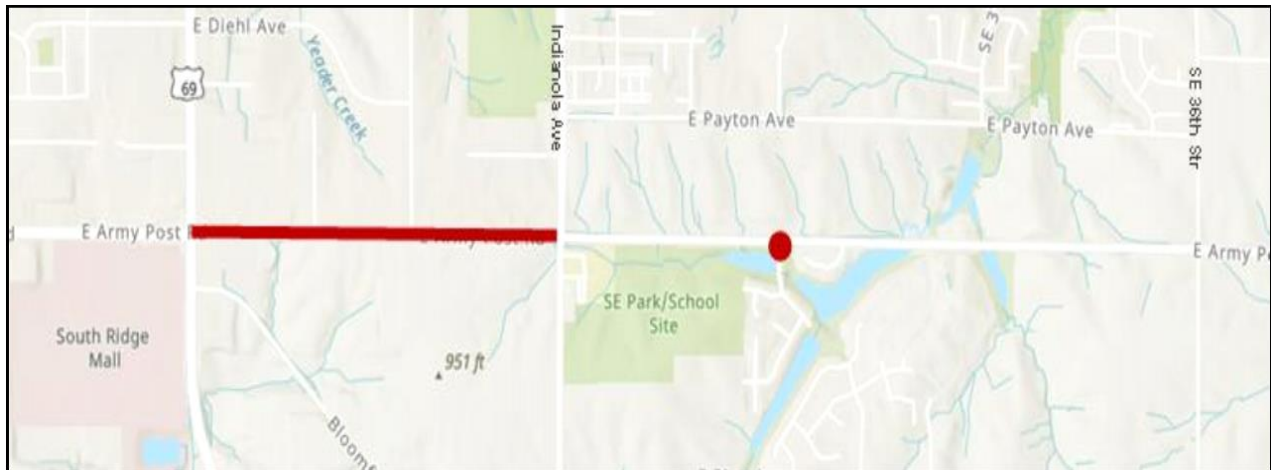
Amount: To be determined after final design is completed.

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 138, E. Army Post Road SE 14th to SE 36th Corridor, ST293, General Obligation Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City plans to reconstruct E. Army Post Road from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue. The existing two (2)-lane rural roadway cross-section will be reconstructed to a three (3)-lane urban roadway with one (1) lane of traffic in each direction and a center turn lane. Included with the road reconstruction is added curb and gutter, new storm sewer, a 10-foot-wide multi-use trail on the north side, and a five (5)-foot-wide sidewalk on the south side. This project also includes constructing a single-lane roundabout at the intersection of E. Army Post Road and Three Lakes Parkway.
- The project scope of work includes adjacent property owner engagement and notification, performing the necessary reviews and analysis to obtain National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) approval by the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT), preparing the necessary permits and clearances required for the project and developing detailed plans and specifications for an IDOT letting, and bidding phase services to provide clarifications and addenda as needed.

- On April 9, 2025, an informational letter was mailed to affected property owners by the Engineering Department of the City of Des Moines.
- On May 6, 2025, under the provisions of Iowa Code 6B.2A, notices of the proposed resolution authorizing acquisition of agricultural land by eminent domain for public improvement purposes were mailed to each affected agricultural land property owner and contract purchase of record known to be occupying the properties required for the project.
- The affected property owners have the right to attend the City Council meeting on June 9, 2025, to voice any objections to the proposed property interests to be acquired.
- The project is tentatively scheduled to be bid by IDOT in November 2026 with construction commencing in 2027.
- At this time, approximately 36 temporary easements, two (2) permanent easements, and two (2) partial fee title acquisitions are needed from 29 property owners to complete construction of this project. Relocation assistance will not be required.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 19, 2025

Roll Call Number: [25-0735](#)

Action: [On](#) the intent to commence a public improvement project to construct the E. Army Post Road Reconstruction from SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue project and to authorize acquisition of the necessary property interests, including agricultural land, (6-9-25). Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: January 8, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-0025](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC for E. Army Post Road Reconstruction (SE 14th Street to Indianola Avenue), not to exceed \$488,000. ([Council Communication No. 24-016](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 6-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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.