COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Number:	**25-453**	Meeting:	**December 8, 2025**
Agenda Item:	**51**	Roll Call:	**25-1640**
Submitted by:	**Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer**		

AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on 2nd Avenue Improvements from Court Avenue to I-235: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as TK Concrete, Inc., Tony J. Ver Meer, President, $2,255,773.50.

SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to allow for public input on the 2nd Avenue Improvements from Court Avenue to I-235 and take the necessary actions as required by Iowa Code to authorize a contract for construction of the proposed project. The 2nd Avenue Improvements from Court Avenue to I-235 include:

- Resurfacing the intersections of 2nd Avenue/Court Avenue and 2nd Avenue/Walnut Street with Hot Mix Asphalt
- Resurfacing 2nd Avenue from Locust Street to I-235 with Hot Mix Asphalt (the roadway segments between Court Avenue and Locust are comprised of Portland Cement Concrete and are in good condition)
- A lane reduction and lane narrowing from Grand Avenue to I-235 to create a consistent street cross-section of three travel lanes with parking
- Moving the east curb line along 2nd Avenue from Grand Avenue to Center Street to increase the parkway width between the shared-use path and street
- Installation of curb bumpouts to shadow parking and shorten pedestrian crossings along the entire corridor
- Removal of peak-hour parking restrictions north of Grand Avenue
- Adding 37 on-street parking spaces between Locust Street and Crocker Street
- Adding a dedicated loading zone space for Casey's Center
- Lower the speed limit of 2nd Avenue between Watson Powell Jr. Way and I-235 from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour

This project is necessary to improve pedestrian safety, provide better roadway lane continuity, and to add on-street parking to certain locations along the 2nd Avenue corridor.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: $2,255,773.50 Construction Contract ($2,750,000 City Engineer's Estimate)

Funding Source: 2025-26 CIP, Page 148, 2nd Ave Improvements - Court to I-235, ST305, Tax Increment Funding Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- On October 20, 2025, under Roll Call No. 25-1380, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the 2nd Avenue Improvements from Court Avenue to I-235. Before the City Council can enter into a contract, it must hold a public hearing and approve the proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents and engineer's estimate for the construction of the 2nd Avenue Improvements from Court Avenue to I-235, Activity ID 06-2023-007. The improvement includes Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) pavement, PCC curb & gutter, Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA), pavement removal, PCC driveways and sidewalk, storm sewer, intakes, modified subbase, pavement marking, traffic control, traffic signal modifications, trees, and other incidental items, all in accordance with the contract documents including Plan File No. 676-186/322, located on 2nd Avenue from Court Avenue to I-235.

- Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:
    - TK Concrete, Inc., Pella, IA – Low Bid
    - Jasper Construction Services, Inc., Newton, IA
    - Reilly Construction Co., Inc., Ossian, IA
    - Caliber Concrete, LLC, Adair, IA
    - Shekar Engineering, P.L.C., Des Moines, IA
    - InRoads, LLC, Des Moines, IA

- The bids were received and opened at a public meeting presided over by the City Engineer in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines, Iowa at 11:00 a.m. on November 4, 2025.

- The City Engineer has determined that the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement was submitted by TK Concrete, Inc., Tony J. Ver Meer, President, 1608 Fifield Road, Pella, IA, 50219 in the amount of $2,255,773.50, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.

- 2nd Avenue between Grand Avenue and I-235 has four (4) travel lanes, each ranging from 12-feet to 13-feet in width. Parking along 2nd Avenue is allowed in some locations but is also restricted during afternoon peak hours. Casey's Center, located between Center Street and Crocker Street on the west side of 2nd Avenue, often closes the curb lane of 2nd Avenue for loading/unloading during events. This creates an inconsistent roadway cross-section depending on the time of day or during events which can cause vehicles to be "trapped" in a lane and/or make abrupt lane changes.

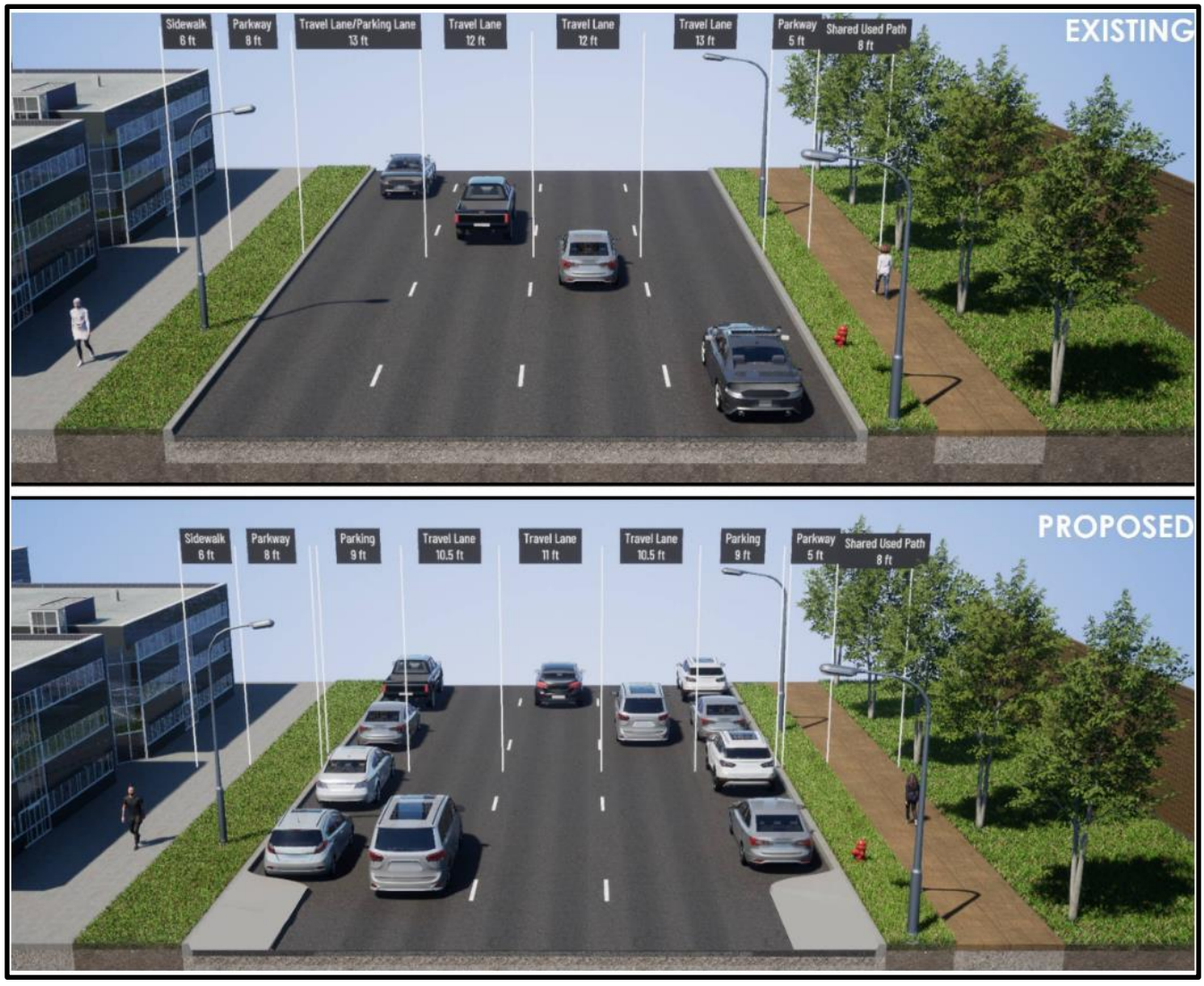
- The 2nd Avenue Improvements from Court Avenue to Interstate 235 will reduce the number of travel lanes from four (4) to three (3), creating a consistent cross-section of three (3) travel lanes with parking on either side. The fourth travel lane is not needed, and this project will provide a consistent cross section with 2nd Avenue south of Grand Avenue. This improvement will add an estimated 37 on-street parking spaces between Locust Street and Crocker Street and add a dedicated loading zone that can be used by Casey's Center. This improvement will also move the 2nd Avenue east curbline between Grand Avenue and Center Street providing an increased parkway between the existing shared-use path and the street.

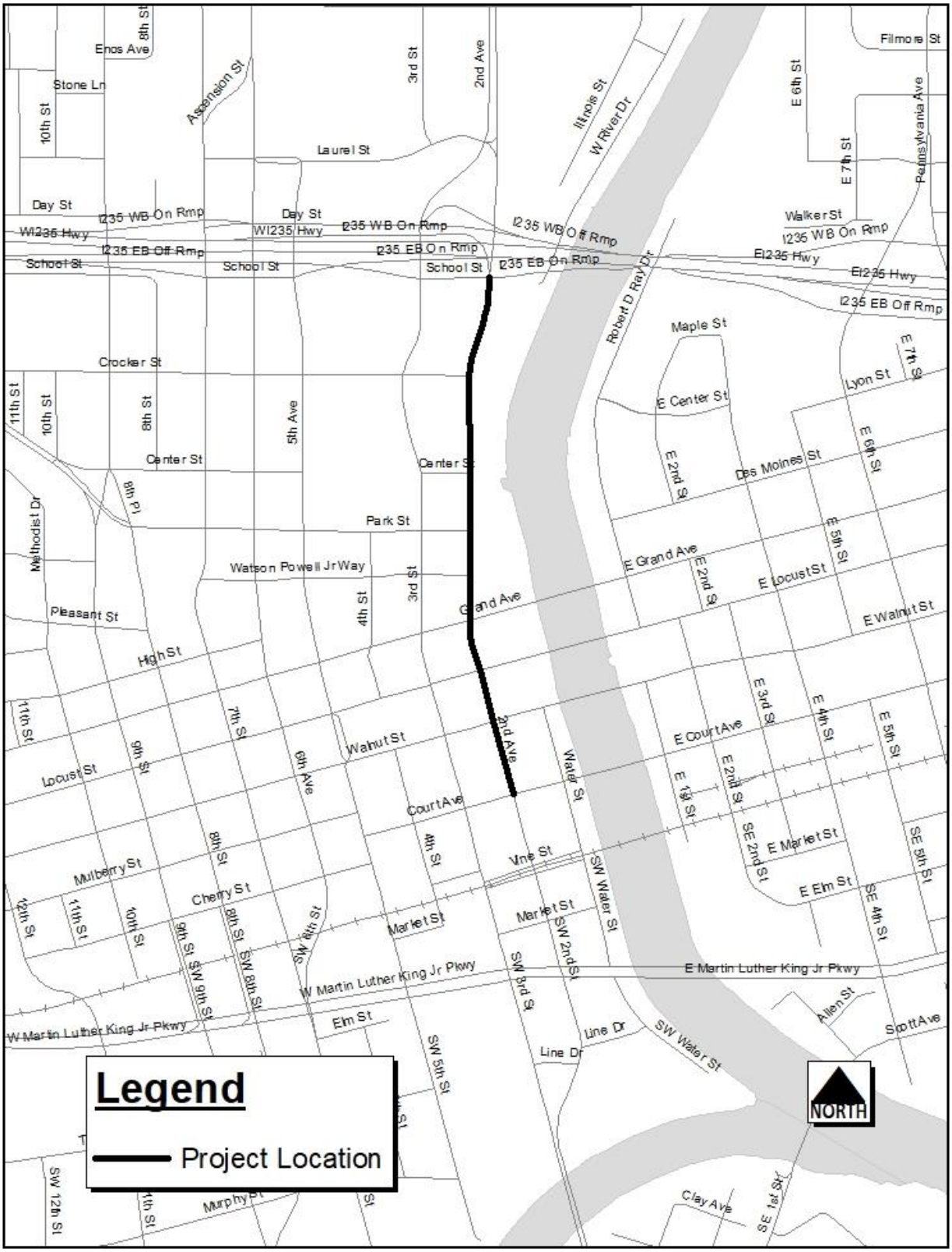
- City staff also propose lowering the speed limit of 2nd Avenue between Watson Powell Jr. Way and I-235 from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour.

- Concrete curb extensions (bump outs) will be constructed at intersections and pedestrian crossings to define the on-street parking and shorten pedestrian crossing distances across 2nd Avenue. The 2nd Avenue roadway pavement will also be resurfaced with a new hot-mix asphalt surface.

- Construction of this project is anticipated to start in spring 2026 and be completed in spring 2027.

- The graphics below show the existing 2nd Avenue cross section (top graphic) and the proposed 2nd Avenue cross section (bottom graphic).




Legend
Project Location
NORTH
Enos Ave
Stone Ln
10th St
Ascension St
8th St
3rd St
2nd Ave
Illinois St
W River Dr
Filmore St
E 6th St
E 7th St
Pennsylvania Ave
Laurel St
Day St
I235 WB On Rmp
WI235 Hwy
I235 EB Off Rmp
School St
I235 EB On Rmp
I235 WB Off Rmp
Walker St
EI235 Hwy
Robert D Ray Dr
Maple St
Crocker St
11th St
5th Ave
E Center St
Lyon St
E 7th St
Center St
E 2nd St
Des Moines St
E 6th St
Methodist Dr
8th Pl
Park St
Watson Powell Jr Way
E Grand Ave
E 5th St
E Locust St
Pleasant St
4th St
Grand Ave
E Walnut St
High St
7th St
6th Ave
Walnut St
Water St
E Court Ave
E 3rd St
E 4th St
E 5th St
Locust St
9th St
E 1st St
Court Ave
Mulberry St
Vine St
SE 2nd St
E Market St
SE 5th St
12th St
Cherry St
Market St
SW Water St
E Elm St
SE 4th St
SW 9th St
SW 8th St
SW 6th St
SW 2nd St
W Martin Luther King Jr Pkwy
E Martin Luther King Jr Pkwy
SW 3rd St
Elm St
Allen St
Scott Ave
Line Dr
SW 5th St
SW 12th St
Murphy St
Clay Ave
SE 1st St

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: October 20, 2025

Roll Call Number: 25-1380

Action: Ordering construction of the following:

(A) 2nd Avenue Improvements from Court Avenue to I-235: Receiving of bids, (11-4-25) and Setting date of hearing, (12-8-25), Engineer's estimate, $2,750,000. (Council Communication No. 25-397) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Coleman. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

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.