


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	26-004	Meeting:	January 12, 2026
	Agenda Item:	7d	Roll Call:	26-0016
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Ordering construction of the following: Guthrie Avenue Trail from Glenbrook Drive to Moss Drive - Receiving bids, (1-27-26), and Setting date of hearing, (2-23-26). (Construction Estimate - \$425,000).

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 project provides for the construction of a new, ten-foot-wide, Portland Cement concrete, multi-use side path along the south side of Guthrie Avenue from Glenbrook Drive to Moss Drive.

FISCAL IMPACT:

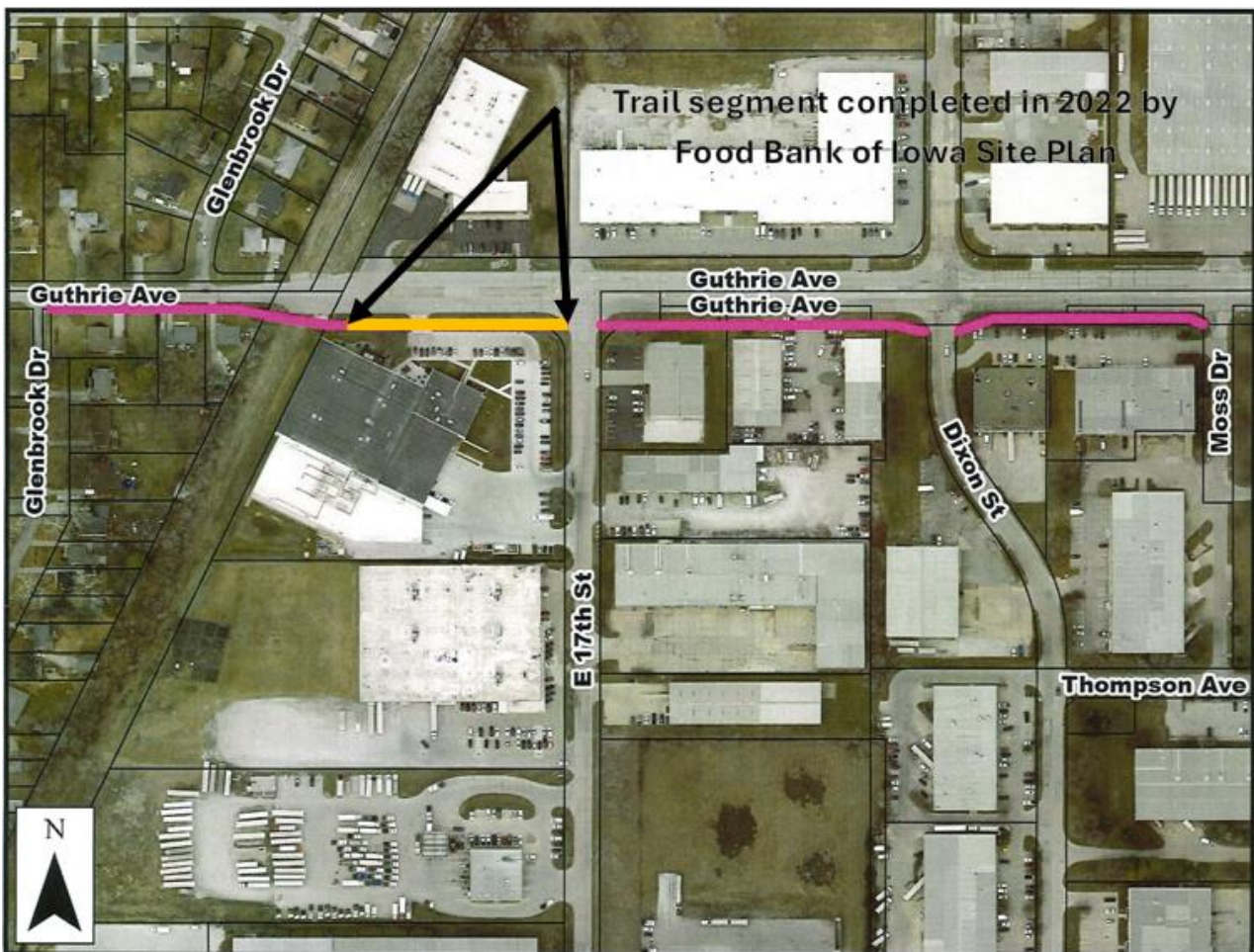
Amount: \$425,000 City Engineer's Estimate

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 166, Sidewalks - School and Priority Routes, SW081, G.O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The Engineering Department has prepared plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Guthrie Avenue Trail from Glenbrook Drive to Moss Drive, Activity ID 09-2023-003. The improvement includes the construction of Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) multi-use trail, PCC sidewalk, PCC Curb and Gutter, truncated domes, PCC combination sidewalk and retaining wall, fencing, grading, traffic control, site restoration, erosion control, and other associated work, all in accordance with the contract documents including Plan File No. 678-374/410, along the south side of Guthrie Avenue from Glenbrook Drive to Moss Drive.
- The estimated construction cost is \$425,000. The proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents are available for public inspection in the Des Moines City Engineer's Office.
- Guthrie Avenue between Glenbrook Drive and Hubbell Avenue is classified as a Minor Arterial Roadway and classified by MoveDSM as a Community Residential Roadway, being an important link in the City's street network for people using all modes of travel. MoveDSM also identifies Guthrie Avenue as being on the Core Bicycle Network.

- Adding a multi-use side path along Guthrie Avenue will provide a much-needed east-west pedestrian and bicycle connection over the Union Pacific Railroad Tracks, connecting multiple neighborhoods and providing a connection to major roadway corridors and a Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) bus route. This multi-use side path also helps to continue moving forward with the City's goal of filling sidewalk gaps, including providing sidewalks on both sides of major corridors, such as Guthrie Avenue.
- The City's plan is to construct a PCC multi-use side path on the south side of Guthrie Avenue from Glenbrook Drive to Hubbell Avenue in three (3) phases:
 - Phase 1 - Guthrie Avenue from E. 21st Street to Hubbell Avenue was completed in the fall of 2024.
 - Phase 2 - Guthrie Avenue from the west edge of the viaduct over the Union Pacific Railroad to E. 21st Street, is scheduled for construction as part of the Guthrie Avenue Viaduct over Union Pacific Railroad Rehabilitation project, which is currently being designed and is anticipated to start in 2026 and be completed in 2027.
 - This Phase 3 - Guthrie Avenue from Glenbrook Drive Moss Drive, is anticipated to start in the spring of 2026 and be completed in fall 2026.
- Ownership, general maintenance, snow removal, and repairs of the Guthrie side path will be the responsibility of the Public Works Department.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 21, 2025

Roll Call Number: [25-0567](#)

Action: [Authorization](#) to proceed with acquisition of the necessary property interests for the Guthrie Avenue Trail from Glenbrook Drive to Moss Drive project. ([Council Communication No. 25-155](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0. Motion by Westergaard to refer to the City Manager and Engineering Department to look at what we can do to save the trees. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

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.

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