

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION



	Number: 26-019	Meeting: January 26, 2026
	Agenda Item: 36	Roll Call: 26-0138
	Submitted by: Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer	

AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on East Court Avenue Reconstruction from East 7th Street to East 14th Street: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as Reilly Construction Co., Inc.: (Chris R. Reilly, President), \$4,198,776.71.

SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to allow for public input on the East Court Avenue Reconstruction from East 7th Street to East 14th Street and take the necessary actions as required by Iowa Code to authorize a contract for construction of the proposed project. This project provides for full reconstruction of East Court Avenue from East 7th Street to east of East 14th Street, including sidewalk, buffered bike lane, storm sewer, and water main improvements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

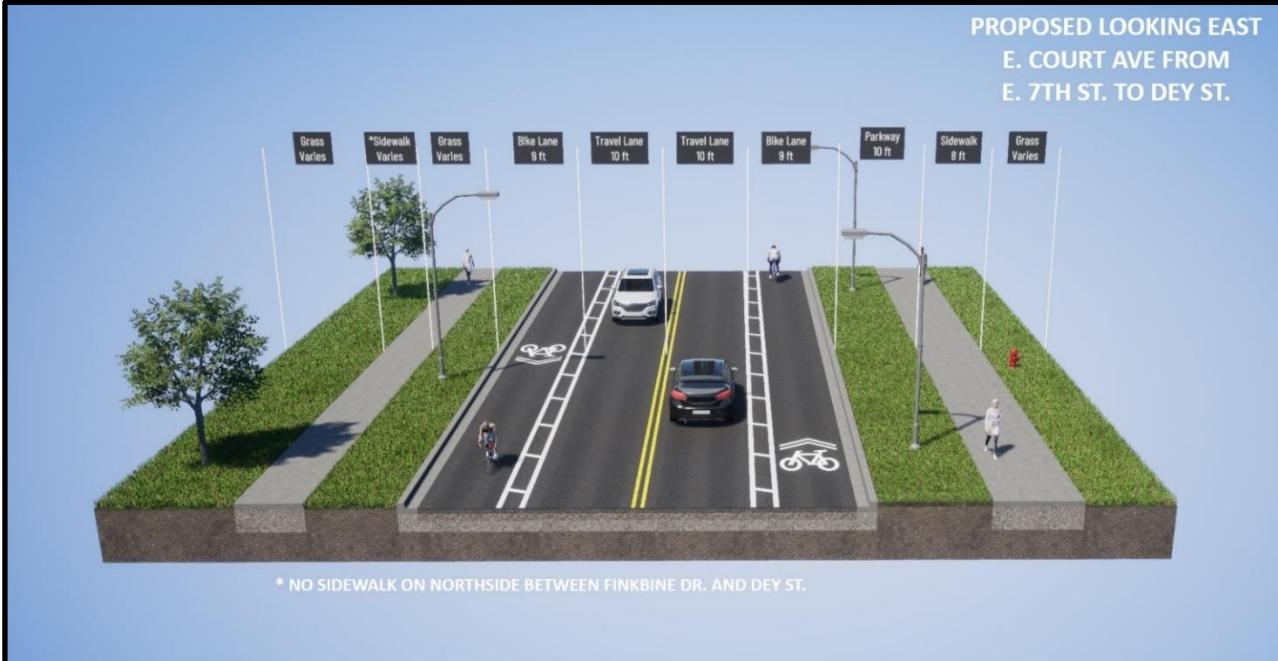
Amount: \$4,198,776.71 Construction Contract (\$4,775,000 City Engineer's Estimate)

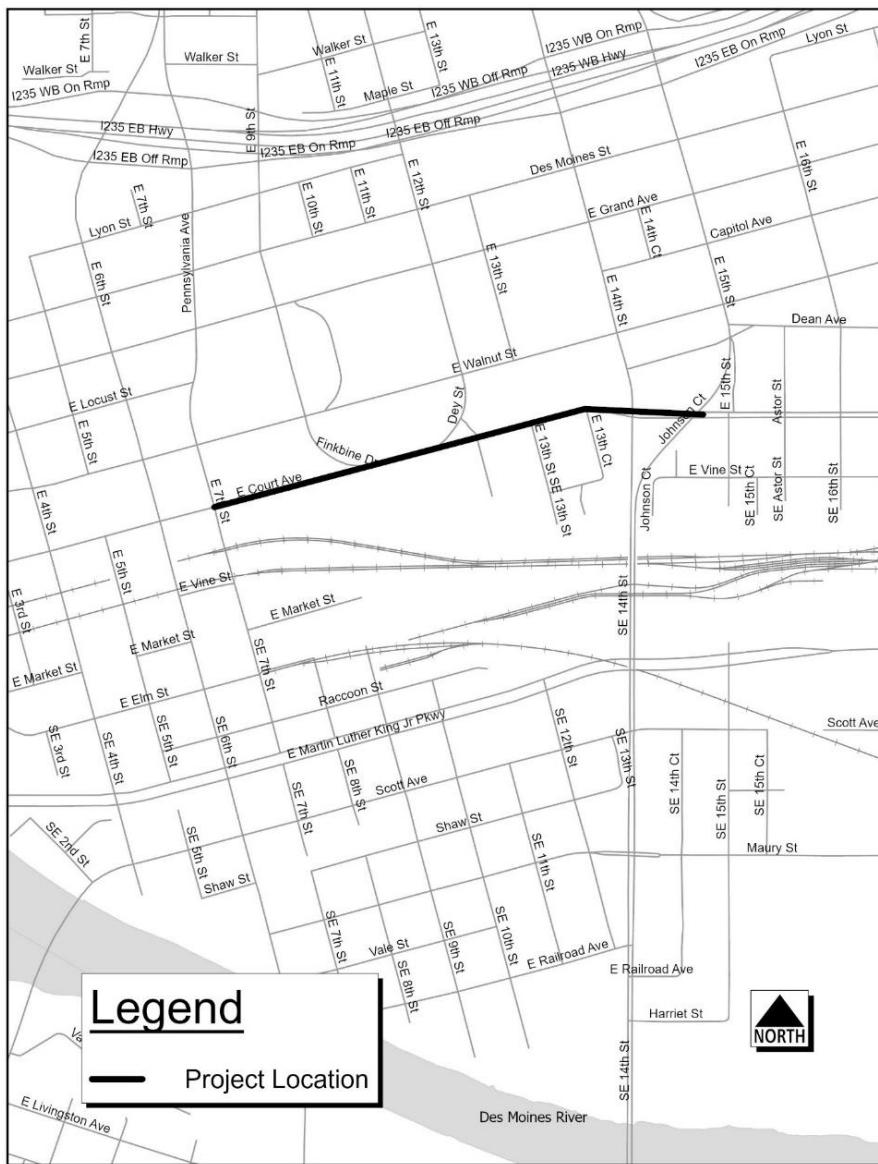
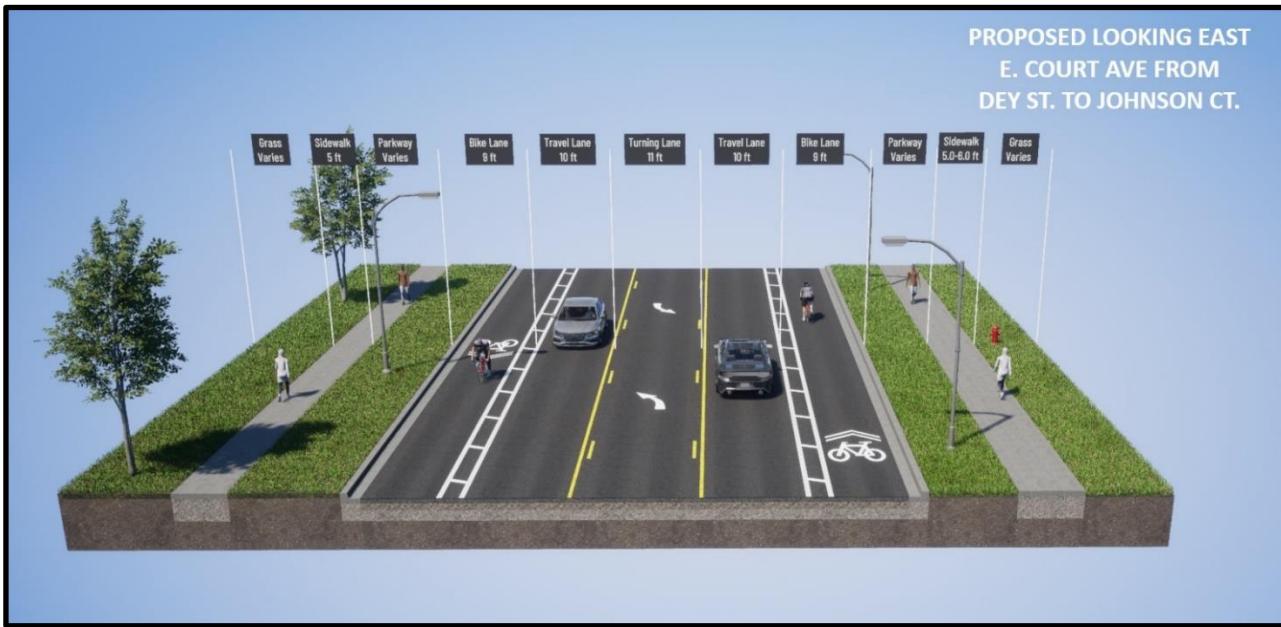
Funding Source: 2025-26 CIP, Page 162, LOSST Street Improvements, ST800, Being: \$3,763,576.96 Local Option Sales and Service Tax (LOSST) Funding and the remaining \$435,199.75 from Des Moines Water Works

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- On December 8, 2025, under Roll Call No. 25-1583, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the East Court Avenue Reconstruction from East 7th Street to East 14th Street. 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 East Court Avenue Reconstruction from East 7th Street to East 14th Street, Activity ID 06-2023-012. The improvement includes the reconstruction of East Court Avenue with Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) curb and gutter, PCC bike lanes, PCC sidewalk and driveways, Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) paving, modified subbase, removals, storm sewer, subdrain, grading, water main construction, erosion control and restoration, and other incidental items, all in accordance with the contract documents including Plan File No. 677-172/323, located along East Court Avenue from East 7th Street to east of East 14th Street.

- Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:
 - Reilly Construction Co., Inc., Ossian, Iowa, - Low Bid
 - Corell Contractor, Inc., West Des Moines, Iowa
 - Jasper Construction Services, Inc., Newton, Iowa
 - TK Concrete, Inc., Pella, Iowa
- 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 December 23, 2025.
- The City Engineer has determined that the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement was submitted by Reilly Construction Co., Inc., (110 East Main Street, PO Box 99, Ossian, IA, 52161; Chris R. Reilly, President) in the amount of \$4,198,776.71, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.
- East Court Avenue from the Des Moines River to East 14th Street needs complete pavement reconstruction. There are also existing sidewalk curb ramps along East Court Avenue that need to be improved to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Des Moines Water Works also needs to replace a water main under East Court Avenue.
- Multiple mixed-use developments have recently been constructed along or near East Court Avenue. Additionally, traffic volumes have declined since the construction of Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway; therefore, the existing street cross section should be improved to meet the current and future needs of the corridor.
- A virtual public meeting was held via Zoom on June 9, 2021, to present the initial proposed project concepts. Another virtual public meeting was held via Zoom on November 9, 2022, to present the final concepts and anticipated construction staging for Phase 1.
- Due to the project size of the overall project, East Court Avenue is being constructed in two (2) separate phases:
 - Phase 1 – East Court Avenue from Des Moines River to east of East 7th Street (Finkbine Drive) – *Completed Fall 2024*
 - Phase 2 – East Court Avenue from east of East 7th Street (Finkbine Drive) to East 14th Street.
- Phase 2 of this project will have a similar cross section to Phase 1, improving the East Court Avenue cross section to include one (1) travel lane in each direction with buffered bike lanes on both sides of the street.
- Construction of Phase 2 is anticipated to begin in spring 2026 and be completed in spring 2027.
- The graphics below show the existing and proposed cross sections for this project.





PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: December 8, 2025

Roll Call Number: [25-1583](#)

Action: Ordering construction of the following:

(B) [East](#). Court Avenue Reconstruction from East 7th Street to East 14th Street: Receiving of bids, (12-23-25) and Setting date of hearing, (1-26-26), Engineer's estimate, \$4,775,000. ([Council Communication No. 25-456](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

- Partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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