


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>26-130</b>	Meeting:	<b>April 6, 2026</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>44</b>	Roll Call:	<b>26-0465</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as Jasper Construction Services, Inc.: (Cliff Rhoads, President), \$6,124,564.01.

## SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to allow for public input on the Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad and take the necessary actions as required by Iowa Code to authorize a contract for construction of the proposed project. This project includes rehabilitation of the Guthrie Avenue Bridge over Union Pacific Railroad, including the following major items of work:

- Removal and replacement of the concrete bridge deck overlay.
- Replacement of bridge expansion joints.
- Repainting structural steel.
- Replacement of the concrete barrier walls and medians along the bridge.
- Isolated structural repairs to the bridge deck.
- Modifying the cross section to add a 10-foot-wide multi-use sidepath along the south side of the bridge.
- Installation of structural steel pedestrian handrailing and chain link fencing along the bridge.

This project also includes intersection improvements at Guthrie Avenue and Delaware Avenue, including reconstruction of the intersection pavement and replacement of the traffic signals. The project will be completed in several construction stages to maintain traffic in each direction.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

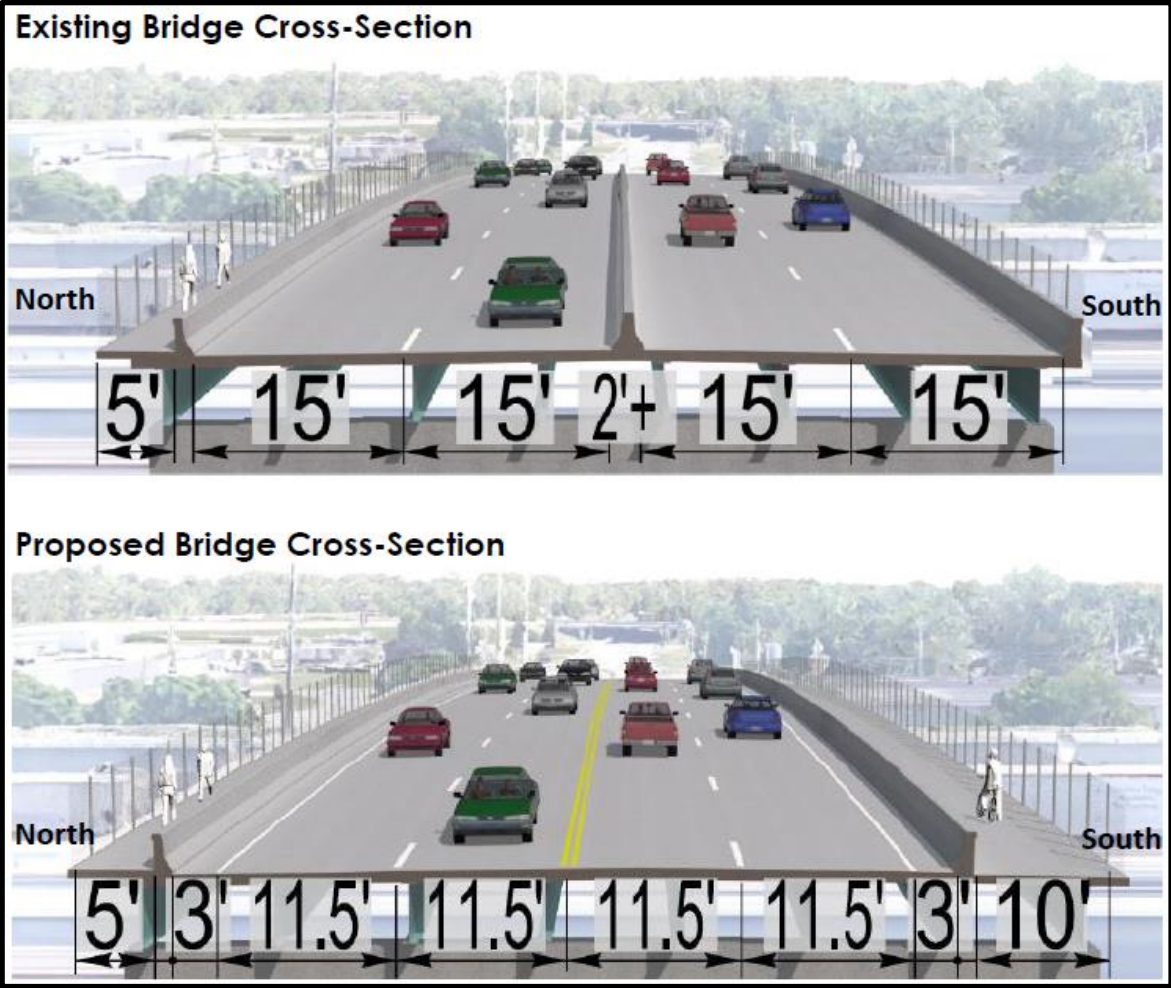
Amount: \$6,124,564.01 Construction Contract (\$6,316,803.75 City Engineer's Estimate)

Funding Source: 2025-26 CIP, Page 48, Guthrie Ave Bridge over Union Pacific RR, BR058, including \$2,000,000 in Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding under Iowa DOT Agreement No. 1-22-STPU-042

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

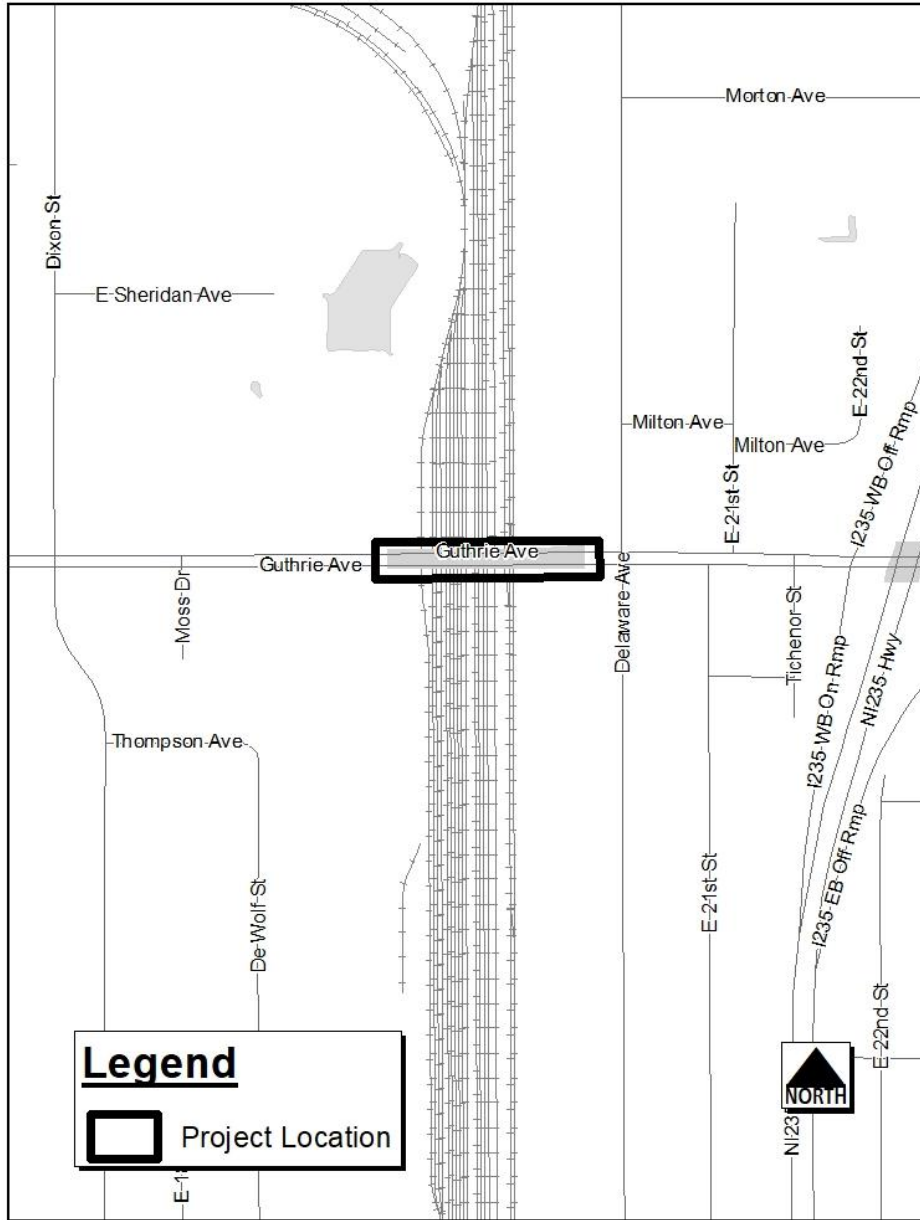
- On March 9, 2026, under Roll Call No. 26-0286, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad. Before the City Council can enter into 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 Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad, Activity ID 12-2020-001. The improvement includes structural repairs and reconfiguring the bridge cross-section to accommodate a 10-foot-wide multi-use sidepath along the south side of the bridge. The necessary bridge work to accommodate the sidepath includes containment and coordination for working over railroad right-of-way, removal of bridge barrier rails, removal and replacement of bridge expansion joints, steel bearing repairs, bridge painting of bearings and beams, removing and replacing deck sections, reinforcing steel and structural concrete, and construction of new sidewalks, railings and fences. The reconfigured bridge cross-section will require the approach roadway pavement to be removed and reconstructed, including new concrete pavement, new traffic signalization at Delaware Avenue, new sidewalks, traffic control and traffic staging, temporary traffic signals, temporary pavement, pavement markings, and erosion control, all in accordance with the contract documents including Plan File No. 678-225/373, located on Guthrie Avenue over the Union Pacific Railroad, west of Delaware Avenue.
- Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:
  - Jasper Construction Services, Inc., Newton, IA - Low Bid
  - Cramer and Associates, Inc., Grimes, IA
- The bids, in accordance with a previously approved Iowa DOT Agreement, were received and opened by the Iowa DOT on March 17, 2026.
- The City Engineer has determined that the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement was submitted by Jasper Construction Services, Inc. 928 N 19th Avenue East, Newton, IA, 50208; (Cliff Rhoads, President), in the amount of \$6,124,564.01, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.
- The Guthrie Avenue bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad was constructed in 1978. In 2015, this bridge was listed as a high priority repair and a targeted joint replacement and strengthening project was completed, however a more extensive rehabilitation project was postponed. The 2019 Bridge Inspection Report continues to list the condition of the bridge as “Fair/Poor” with chloride contaminated concrete of the deck and sidewalks, and the concrete barrier rails nearing the end of useful life.
- The traffic signals at Guthrie Avenue and Delaware Avenue were constructed in 1978 and need replacement.
- The City also has been working on a plan to construct a PCC multi-use sidepath on the south side of Guthrie Avenue from Glenbrook Drive to Hubbell Avenue in three (3) phases:
  - Phase 1 – Guthrie Avenue from East 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 East 21st Street, is scheduled for construction as part of this project, Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad.
- Phase 3 – Guthrie Avenue from Glenbrook Drive to Moss Drive is anticipated to start construction in the spring of 2026 and be completed in fall 2026. On February 23, 2026, City Council held Hearing on the plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer’s estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder, and awarded the construction contract.



Above Graphic - existing bridge cross section (top) and proposed conceptual bridge cross section (bottom)

- Construction of the Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad project is anticipated to begin in spring 2026 and be completed in fall 2027.



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: March 9, 2026

Roll Call Number: [26-0286](#)

Action: Ordering construction of the following:

[Guthrie](#) Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad: Receiving of bids, (3-17-26) and Setting date of hearing, (4-6-26), Engineer's estimate, \$6,316,803.75. ([Council Communication No. 26-081](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: March 27, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0371](#) & [23-0372](#)

Action: Items regarding the Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad project:

- (A) [Approving](#) and authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement number 1-22-STPU-042 for the Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over the Union Pacific Railroad, which rescinds Iowa Department of Transportation Agreement number 1-21-STBG-SWAP-017. ([Council Communication No. 23-139](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.
- (B) [Authorization](#) to proceed with acquisition of the necessary property interests for the Guthrie Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation over Union Pacific Railroad. ([Council Communication No. 23-142](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

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

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