


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>26-167</b>	Meeting:	<b>May 4, 2026</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>7</b>	Roll Call:	<b>26-0542</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Approving a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Olsson, Inc. for professional services for the Southeast 14th Street Adaptive Traffic Signal Control project, not to exceed \$498,851.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the PSA with Olsson, Inc. (601 P Street, Suite 200, Lincoln, NE 68508) for a total cost not to exceed \$498,851, based on hourly billing rates, to provide engineering services related to updating and finalizing the concept of operations report, assisting with vendor evaluation and selection for adaptive traffic signal control (ATSC) equipment, and to complete engineering design and construction services for traffic signal modifications at 23 intersections for the Southeast 14th Street Adaptive Traffic Signal Control project.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

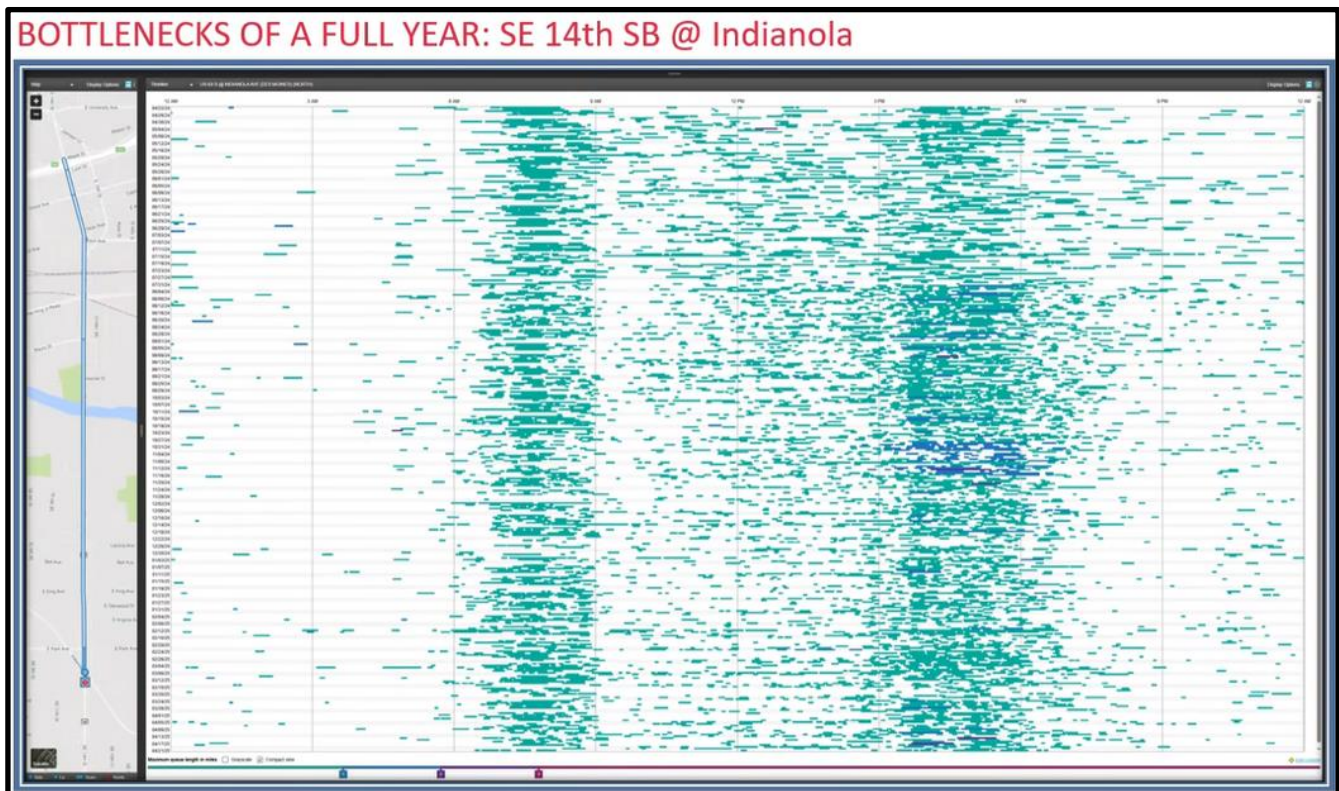
Amount: \$498,851

Funding Source: 2026-2027 CIP, Page 170, Traffic System Operation Improvements, TR097

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The results and recommendations of the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Master Plan were presented to Council at a work session on October 22, 2018. The ITS Master Plan was adopted as a framework for the City of Des Moines' future traffic management and communication system infrastructure at the November 19, 2018 Council Meeting.
- One component of the ITS Master Plan is to deploy ATSC technology on two (2) critical corridors: Southeast 14th Street and University Avenue. Before ATSC technology can be deployed, fiber optic communication and updated traffic signal controllers must be in place. The ITS Master Plan Phase 2 installed fiber and updated traffic signal controllers along Southeast 14th Street from Maury Street to Army Post Road and on East 14th Street from University Avenue to Grand Avenue. The ITS Master Plan Phase 4 installed fiber and updated traffic signal controllers along East 14th Street from East Walnut Street to East Court Avenue and along East 15th Street from Walker Street to East Court Avenue.
- One of the challenges with Southeast 14th Street is there are significant delays and traffic queueing throughout the entire day, instead of just during peak hours. The below graphic

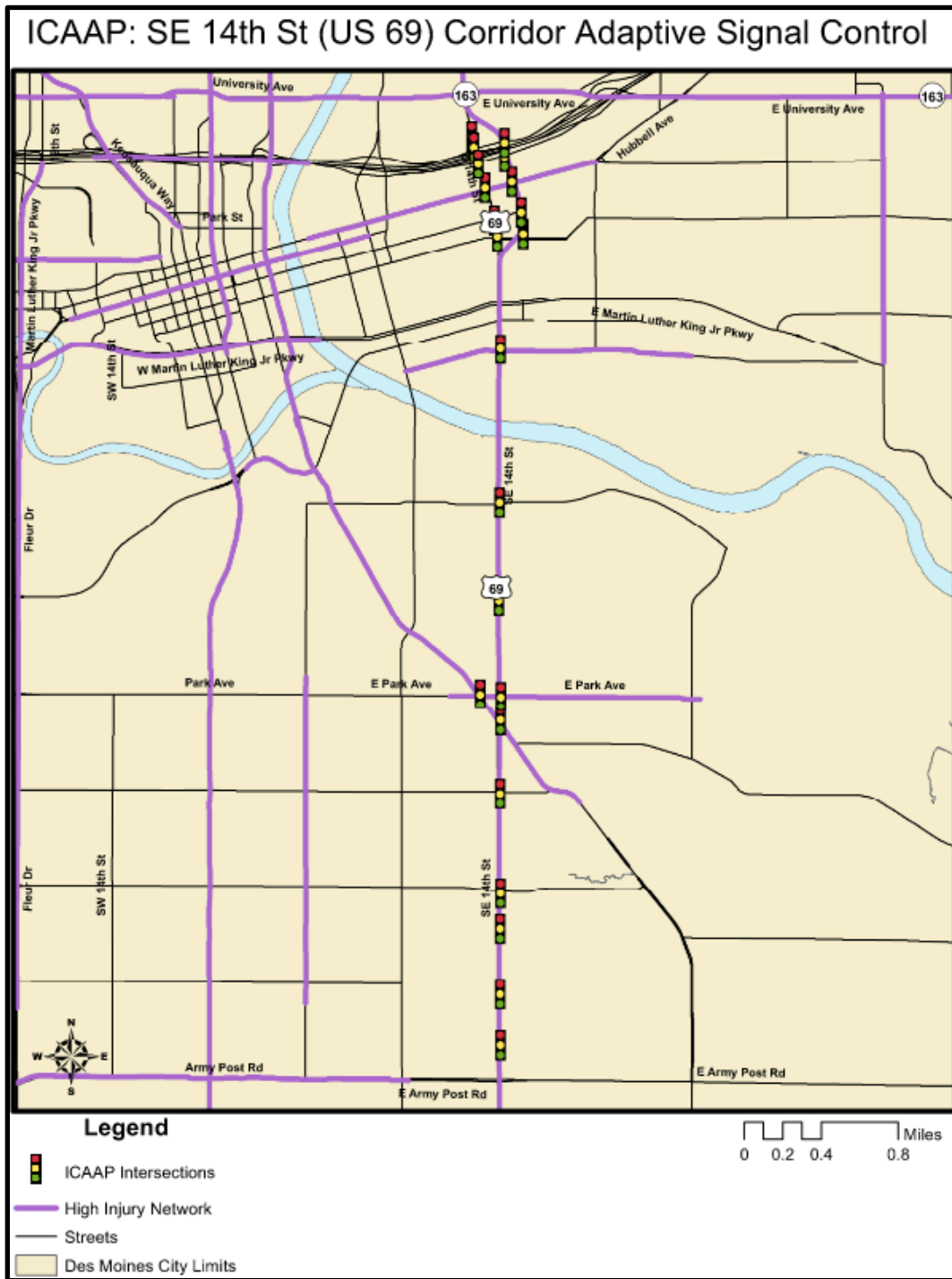
shows traffic queueing as green (over one mile queueing) and blue (over two [2] miles queueing) at the intersection of Southeast 14th Street and Indianola Avenue, which shows the significant queueing occurring throughout most of the day. These traffic patterns make it difficult for coordinated traffic signal timing plans to manage and will be better managed with adaptive traffic signal control. ATSC technology adjusts the timing of red, yellow and green traffic lights to accommodate changing traffic patterns throughout the day, eases traffic congestion and improves travel times, which also results in a reduction of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions along the corridor.



**Above Graphic:** 2025 traffic queueing data at SE14th Street and Indianola Avenue – Green represents over 1 mile traffic queueing, and Blue represents over 2 miles traffic queueing

- The Southeast 14th Street (US 69) Corridor Adaptive Signal Control project will enhance existing loop detection with video/radar detection, install pushbuttons for all pedestrian movements, update pedestrian signal heads, update pedestrian ramps to current standards, and install an adaptive traffic signal control along the corridor. The goal of the project is to promote efficient flow of traffic along the corridor during regular travel conditions and non-recurring congestion caused by unexpected or non-typical events. Installing the adaptive traffic signal control project will stabilize traffic flow and minimize queueing thereby reducing congestion and the amount of vehicle emissions along the corridor. The pedestrian improvements will encourage walking, potentially removing vehicles from the road, adding to the air quality benefit.
- The City was awarded \$2,075,000 in Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) funding for the design and construction of the Southeast 14th Street Adaptive Traffic Signal Control project. The City's funding match for the ICAAP agreement is \$518,750 from General Obligation Bonds.

- This professional services agreement is to update and finalize the Southeast 14th Street Corridor Concept of Operations (required by ICAAP), assist the City in soliciting, evaluating, and selecting a vendor to provide the ATSC technology/equipment, and to facilitate the design and bidding documents for the Southeast 14th Street Adaptive Traffic Signal Control project.
- The Southeast 14th Street Adaptive Traffic Signal Control project, shown in the map below, includes traffic signal and pedestrian ramp modifications at 23 intersections from East 14th Street/East 15th Street and Walker Street to Southeast 14th Street and Cummins Road. Each intersection will include the following modifications (where applicable):
  - New video/radar detection equipment
  - Pedestrian countdown traffic signal heads
  - Pushbuttons located adjacent to sidewalks/ramps
  - Upgraded pedestrian pushbuttons, APS where applicable
  - ATSC technology and programming
  - ADA compliant pedestrian ramps
- The Engineering Department's request for proposal (RFP) process, including advertisement, was used for the procurement of these professional services. City Staff, in concurrence with the City Engineer, selected and negotiated a PSA with Olsson, Inc., for a total cost not to exceed \$498,851, based on hourly billing rates, to provide professional services for the Southeast 14th Street Adaptive Traffic Signal Control project.



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: February 23, 2026

Roll Call Number: [26-0223](#)

Action: [Approving](#) and authorizing execution of the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Iowa’s Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) agreement for the Southeast 14th Street (US 69) Corridor Adaptive Signal Control project. ([Council Communication No. 26-062](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: September 16, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-1215](#)

Action: [Approving](#) submission of the ICAAP funding application to the IDOT for the Southeast 14th Street (US 69) Corridor Adaptive Signal Control. ([Council Communication No. 24-367](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: November 19, 2018

Roll Call Number: [18-1895](#)

Action: [Approval](#) of the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Master Plan as the framework for the City's future traffic management and communication systems infrastructure. ([Council Communication No. 18-624](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

#### **BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):**

Board: Transportation Safety Committee

Date: September 11, 2018

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: Motion was made by Jim Windsor to support investments in new technology and infrastructure; seconded by Scott Bents. Motion passed 8-0.

#### **ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

- Additional anticipated actions for the project include ordering construction, 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.

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 second floor of T.M. Franklin Cownie City Administration Building, 1200 Locust Street. 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](mailto:cityclerk@dmgov.org).