


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number: 23-232	Meeting: May 8, 2023
	Agenda Item: 7	Roll Call: [_____]
	Submitted by: Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer	

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Agreement for SE 36th and E. Army Post Road Roundabout.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of IDOT Agreement No. 2024-TS-026 for Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) funding between the City of Des Moines and IDOT for the SE 36th and E. Army Post Road Roundabout Project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$500,000

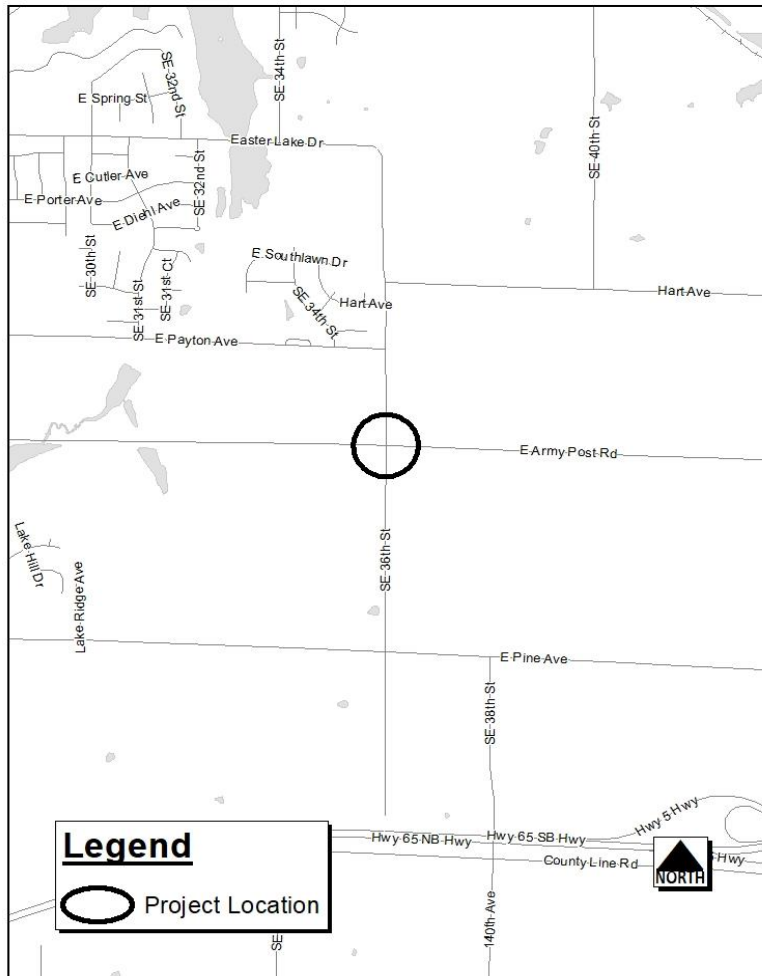
Funding Source: 2023-2024 CIP, Page 152, E. Army Post & SE 36th St Intersection Improvements, ST303, Being: \$500,000 in TSIP funds and \$1,500,000 in G.O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The IDOT implemented an annual program beginning in 1988 to provide funding assistance for traffic safety improvements. These improvements may include roadway construction projects to correct high-crash locations, upgrading of obsolete traffic control devices to comply with the requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, or traffic studies to determine the best methods to correct a safety problem. Since the program began, Des Moines has been successful in securing funding, including several major intersection improvements, traffic signal upgrades, and other safety projects.
- A traffic study completed in 2020 identified significant traffic growth on the north approach of the intersection as well as safety and speeding issues on E. Army Post Road. Based on E. Army Post Road's history of fatal and serious injuries, observed speeding along the corridor, and traffic growth in the area, the conversion from a two (2)-way stop-controlled intersection (on SE 36th Street) to a roundabout will enhance safety by reducing speeds, reducing intersection conflict points, and reducing the severity of crashes by eliminating head-on and 90-degree angle crashes, while also optimizing the efficiency of the traffic operations.
- The roundabout is planned to be a single lane roundabout with one (1) lane entering and exiting each approach. Due to the existing 55-mph speed limit on E. Army Post, the roundabout will be

designed with extended approach splitter islands with curvature to gradually reduce vehicle speeds from free flow speeds to 20 mph through the roundabout.

- On August 8, 2022, by Roll Call No. 22-1225, City Council approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 TSIP application to the IDOT for \$500,000 (maximum amount per project under TSIP) for the SE 36th Street and E. Army Post Road Roundabout Project.
- IDOT has awarded \$500,000 in TSIP funding for the SE 36th Street and E. Army Post Road Roundabout Project. The estimated total cost for construction is \$2 million.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: August 8, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-1225](#)

Action: [Approving](#) the Fiscal Year 2024 TSIP application to the IDOT for the SE 36th Street and E. Army Post Road Roundabout Project. ([Council Communication No. 22-369](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Transportation Safety Committee

Date: November 10, 2020

Resolution Number: 1

Action: Motion was made by Tom Desio to approve the roundabout concept for the intersection improvements at E. Army Post Road and SE 36th Street, seconded by Scott Bents. Motion passed 6:0.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Actions related to the construction contract for the project, including partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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