

★ **Roll Call Number**

Agenda Item Number

28

October 6, 2014

Date

Request from Sharon Cooper/Laura Mundy, Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association, to speak regarding the E. 30th Street Beautification Project.

Moved by _____ to

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
GATTO				
GRAY				
HENSLEY				
MAHAFFEY				
MOORE				
TOTAL				

CERTIFICATE

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

Mayor

City Clerk

September 29, 2014

Scott Sanders
City Manager
City of Des Moines
400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA 50309

Re: East 30th Street Streetscape Project Request for Planning Assistance

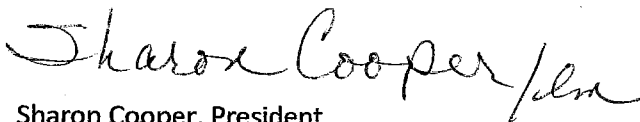
Dear Mr. Sanders,

The Fairground Neighborhood Association (FNA) would like assistance in initiating a streetscape concept plan for East 30th Street. Attached you will find our Request for Planning Assistance. This request has been prepared by our Beautification Committee.

The Fairground Neighborhood Association, the Beautification Committee, and the residents of the Fairground Neighborhood are looking forward to working with the City throughout the process of developing a concept plan for streetscape improvements.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed below. Thank you again for embarking upon this journey with us.

Yours truly,



Sharon Cooper, President
Fairground Neighborhood Association
PO Box 8057
Des Moines, IA 50301

515-975-1744 (Cell)

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FNA50317@outlook.com (Email)

/lm

Enc. 4

Request for Streetscape Project East 30th Beautification

A. Details on the proposed project location

Project Location and Boundaries

The East 30th Street Streetscape Project is located within the boundaries of the Fairground Neighborhood Association (FNA). The corridor affected by this project is East 30th Street bound by University Avenue on the north end and by Dean Avenue on the south end. The proposed project corridor is approximately one (1) linear mile.

University Ave., Walker St., Maple St., Lyon St., Des Moines St., Grand Ave., Capitol Ave., Walnut St., Logan Ave., and Dean Ave. all intersect directly onto E. 30th St. on the east side of the corridor, with University Ave., Grand Ave., Walnut St., and Dean Ave. being main thoroughfares.

Land Use

The west side of the corridor is comprised of fourteen (14) businesses, and six (6) single family dwellings. These are listed from North to South.

Quik Trip – University Ave. to Walker St.

Sta-Rite Transmission – Walker St.

Single family dwelling – Maple St.

Hawkeye Tack and Western Wear – Maple St. to Lyon St.

Two single family dwellings – Lyon St.

Greater Iowa Credit Union – Des Moines St.

Three single family dwellings – Des Moines St. to Alley

Cans – Alley to Grand Ave.

Econo Lodge – Grand Avenue to Capitol Ave.

C J's Bar – Capitol Ave. to Alley

Home Plate Diner – Alley to Walnut St.

Diane's Beauty Shop – Walnut St.

Marty's Barber Shop – Walnut St.

Rumor's Tattoo Parlor – Walnut St.

Fairground Hardware – Walnut St. to Alley

Gerri's – Alley to Logan Ave.

S & H Electric – Logan Ave. to Dean Ave.

The east side of the corridor is comprised wholly by the western edge of the Iowa State Fairground. East 30th St. is the gateway to the Iowa State Fair, with the main entrance to the Iowa State Fair being at Grand and East 30th. The Iowa State Fair draws approximately one

million visitors every year. The Iowa State Fair holds numerous events throughout the year, drawing people to this area year-round.

Existing Conditions

Many of the homes and businesses on the west side of East 30th St. appear rundown and neglected. Sidewalks are broken and buckled, creating a hazard for pedestrians. The drainage area by the Econo Lodge is unsightly and accumulates much litter.

East 30th St. is a narrow four lane road. This busy thoroughfare has narrow lanes and needs to be resurfaced. Potholes along the entire length of the road present a great risk for motorists. The street is a heavily traveled truck route and serves as a vital gateway to the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

In addition to East 30th being the primary focus of this beautification project, it is also a major thoroughfare within the city of Des Moines. Future connection to the MLK Jr. Parkway (SE Connector) will likely increase travel along E. 30th St.

Now is the time to address this project as it goes hand in hand with the re-decking of the East 30th Street viaduct, and the construction of the SE Connector.

Suggestions for improvements

We would like to make the East 30th Corridor a more pedestrian friendly area with retail shops and restaurants. We advocate a sidewalk be added to the east side of the corridor. For beautification purposes, we propose the addition of planters, trees, benches, and decorative garbage receptacles along the walkways.

Street lights similar to those on the Grand Concourse at the Iowa State Fair would further showcase the area, tying in our connection to this historic site. We would also like to have banners and/or flags attached to those street light poles indicating our neighborhood affiliation and our pride in showcasing the Iowa State Fair.

Since East 30th is so narrow, FNA would entertain the idea of changing the configuration of the road from a four lane to a three lane, with the inside lane being strictly a turn lane. A traffic study should be considered along with the streetscape concept plan to ensure any reconfiguration of the roadway is appropriate for current and future traffic volumes.

B. Demonstrate organizational capacity

FNA has an active membership core that is willing to be involved in this project. Leadership of this Association believes that even more members will participate on this project once it starts moving forward.

The Beautification Committee is comprised of both residents of the Fairground Neighborhood and area business owners. Additional E. 30th St. property owners will be asked to participate, in addition to a representative from the Iowa State Fair.

C. Ability to match public funds with private funds

We understand that the project lies within the boundaries of the ACCENT Tax Increment Funding (TIF) district. We ask that the City commit some of these funds to the concept plan. The City Streetscape Policy states that additional assistance will be provided to low income groups for planning and implementation.

The Iowa State Fair has indicated they would consider doing the ongoing maintenance of this beautification project. More discussion on this topic will be necessary.

D. Provide a minimum of 3-5 neighborhood stakeholders

Our stakeholder group/beautification committee is currently comprised of the following individuals:

- Laura and Kenneth Mundy – Logan Ave.
- Carol Hastings – Logan Ave.
- Sharon Cooper – Logan Ave.
- Dennis Perry – Des Moines St.

- Ken Sobocinski, Owner – Home Plate Diner – East 30th St.
- Maureen Graziano – Walnut St.

We would like to add a seat on our committee for an Iowa State Fair staff or board member. We have petitioned and acquired the signatures of business property owners on East 30th St. showing their support of this project.

