

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

02-273

AGENDA:

MAY 20, 2002

SUBJECT:

POLK COUNTY
AGREEMENT FOR
BEAVER AVENUE
AND MEREDITH
DRIVE
INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENTS

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

JEB E. BREWER, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

SYNOPSIS -

Polk County has proposed an intergovernmental agreement (28E) with the City of Des Moines for an intersection widening and signalization project at the intersection of Beaver Avenue and Meredith Drive.

FISCAL IMPACT -

Polk County will provide most of the funding for this project with a small portion funded by the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT). The City will be responsible for 25 percent of the construction costs up to a maximum of \$60,000. Funds are not identified in the current Capital Improvements Program (CIP), as Polk County proposed this after the City's budget was submitted. The City's portion is not required until after July 1, 2003, and if the 28E is approved, funding would be programmed in the 2003-04 CIP (Citywide Signals, Channelization, and School Crossing Protection Program - TFC091) for this project by adding an additional \$60,000 to the existing \$160,000 shown.

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

Last Fall, in order to improve safety and reduce delays specifically on Meredith Drive at Beaver Avenue, Polk County installed a 3-way stop at the intersection. It was later replaced with a temporary traffic signal. At the time that the signals were installed, City staff recommended to the County that they also consider construction of turning lanes to alleviate the traffic congestion. Polk County has recently completed a traffic study for the intersection, which concludes that an intersection widening project along with permanent traffic signals should be installed. The project would provide a northbound left-turn lane, along

with southbound and eastbound right-turn lanes.

Polk County has submitted an agreement for this project to the City for consideration. The agreement indicates that the County would administer the project. The total construction cost is estimated at \$255,000. The County has received \$18,600 from IDOT in Traffic Safety Funding for this work. The remainder of the construction costs is proposed to be funded 75 percent County and 25 percent City, with the City's portion not to exceed \$60,000. (The City of Des Moines borders this intersection in the southwest quadrant.) The agreement also stipulates that the traffic signals, once installed, will be maintained and operated by Polk County. Construction of the project is anticipated to begin later this Summer and be completed by the end of 2002.
