


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

|   |               |   |            |                      |
|---|---------------|---|------------|----------------------|
| <br>CITY OF DES MOINES<br>OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER | Number:       | <b>23-308</b>                               | Meeting:   | <b>June 26, 2023</b> |
|   | Agenda Item:  | <b>62-I</b>                                 | Roll Call: | <b>23-0954</b>       |
|   | Submitted by: | <b>Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer</b> |            |                      |

## AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of the City of Des Moines Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan and City's Application for the US Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Program:

- A. Approval and adoption of the Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan and a commitment to a goal to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2040 on streets within the City of Des Moines.
- B. Authorizing submittal of an implementation grant application as part of the US Department of Transportation's SS4A Discretionary Grant Program and commitment to provide required matching funds.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan with a commitment to eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injuries on city streets by 2040 and authorization to apply for an implementation grant under the US Department of Transportation's SS4A Discretionary Grant Program.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

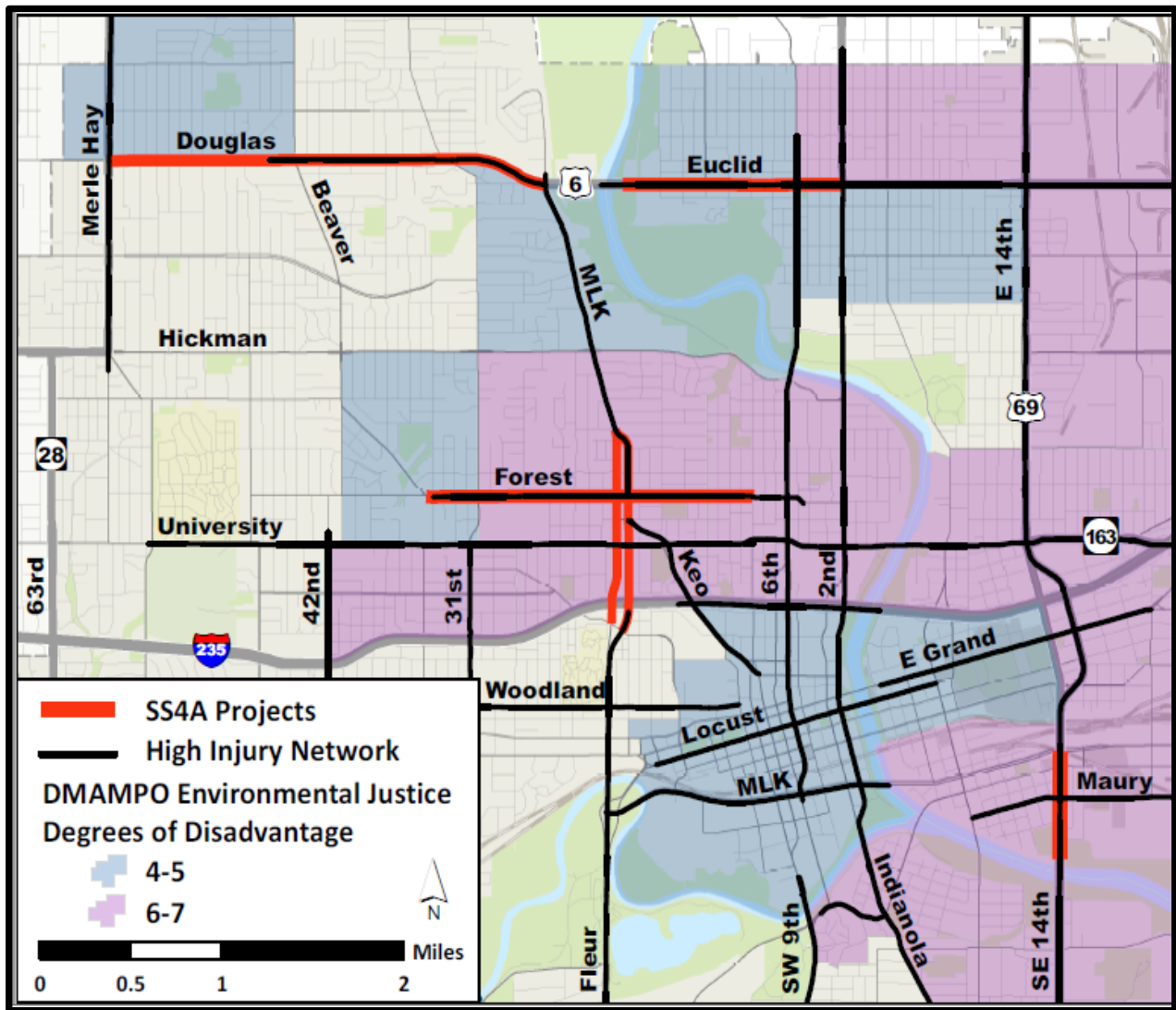
Amount: \$27,000,000 in construction costs for SS4A grant projects

Funding Source: Various funding sources as follows:

- \$17,000,000 – SS4A Discretionary Grant
- \$4,500,000 – Federal STBG funding allocated by the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization (Douglas Avenue)
- \$1,900,000 – Iowa Department of Transportation (Euclid Avenue, SE 14th Street)
- \$800,000 – 2023-2024 CIP, Page 159, 19th Street and MLK Modifications, ST311
- \$1,300,000 – 2023-2024 CIP, Page 140, Douglas Avenue Merle Hay Road to Lower Beaver Road, ST289
- \$800,000 – 2023-2024 CIP, Page 135, Euclid Roadway Reconfiguration 12th Street to 2nd Avenue, ST284
- \$500,000 – 2023-2024 CIP, Page 131, Beaver Avenue to Downtown Bike Lane Connection, ST278
- \$200,000 – 2023-2024 CIP, Page 157, SE 14th Street and Maury Street Improvements, ST309

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- Previously, City Council adopted PlanDSM: Creating Our Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan, which includes a goal that in the year 2040, Des Moines will have a complete transportation system providing safe and efficient infrastructure for walking, bicycling, mass transit, and automobiles. In 2018, the City Council adopted MoveDSM: Transportation Master Plan, which establishes a multi-modal vision for transportation in Des Moines over the next 25 years and supports the goals outlined in PlanDSM for a safe transportation network. The City recently updated the Complete Streets Policy with the adoption of MoveDSM and a Traffic Calming Program for Des Moines' Neighborhoods, that support transportation safety efforts.
- The Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan has been developed to advance the goals and objectives contained in PlanDSM and MoveDSM and implement measures and strategies to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2040 on streets within the City of Des Moines. This plan will be reviewed annually and revised based on progress made towards the goal of zero traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries. Funding and staff positions dedicated to transportation safety action plan activities and efforts will be brought forward to City Council with the City's annual budget development process.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), 2021, established the SS4A discretionary grant program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over five (5) years. The funds for the SS4A Program are to be awarded on a competitive basis for regional, local, and tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.
- As a part of the development of the Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan, detailed analyses were conducted of traffic crashes reported in the years from 2017 to 2021 to identify street corridors on the High Interval Network (HIN) that have high levels of fatal and severe injury crashes. The Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan subscribes to principles and approaches with the objective to reduce fatal and severe injuries in the City to zero by 2040, which satisfies many of the selection criteria for an implementation grant and aligns well with the SS4A program's priorities and goals.
- Upon comparison of the corridors shown on the HIN and the projects in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), the following five (5) projects were identified by City staff as candidates for a grant application under a SS4A Implementation Grant to implement safety related improvements identified on the City's High Injury Network:
  1. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway and 19th Street from Cottage Grove Avenue to Washington Avenue
  2. Douglas Avenue (U.S. 6) from Merle Hay Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway
  3. Euclid Avenue (U.S. 6) from the Des Moines River to 2nd Avenue
  4. Forest Avenue from Beaver Avenue to 9th Street
  5. SE 14th Street (U.S. 69) from Des Moines River to Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, which includes the SE 14th Street and Maury Street intersection
- The total project costs are estimated to be \$27 million. The SS4A Grant amount would be \$17 million and a 20% local or non-federal match is required. The matching funds are programmed in the current CIP.



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: March 21, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-0393](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Toole Design Group, LLC for professional services to develop a Vision Zero Citywide Transportation Safety Plan, not to exceed \$223,445. ([Council Communication No. 22-112](#)) Moved by Voss to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 7-0.

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

Board: Transportation Safety Committee

Date: June 21, 2023

Resolution Number: None

Action: Motion was made by Luis Montoya to approve the Vision Zero Transportation Safety Action Plan; seconded by Giada Morresi. Motion passed 9:0.

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Funding dedicated to transportation safety action plan efforts, including staffing, will be brought forward to the City Council through the City's annual budget development process.

If a grant is awarded, the acceptance and approval of the grant agreement will be presented for City Council consideration and approval.

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 first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. 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).