


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-369	Meeting:	August 7, 2023
	Agenda Item:	66	Roll Call:	23-1142
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorization to proceed with acquisition of the necessary property interests for the 63rd Street Trail from SW McKinley Avenue to Raccoon River Project by gift, negotiation, or eminent domain.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of authorization to proceed with acquisition of the necessary property interests for the 63rd Street Trail from SW McKinley Avenue to the southern abutment of the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Bridge over the Raccoon River by gift, negotiation, or eminent domain. This action is required by Iowa law when property acquisition is needed for recreational trail purposes before the City can initiate the property acquisition process for this project under eminent domain. Relocation assistance will not be required for this project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: To be determined after final design is completed.

Funding Source: 2023-24 CIP, Page 124, Active Transportation, ST269, Being: G.O. Bonds and Tax Increment Funding Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- City of Des Moines staff have worked with IDOT, City of West Des Moines, and private developers to plan and initiate construction of a 10-foot-wide multi-use trail along 63rd Street (also known as Iowa Highway 28 and SE 1st Street in West Des Moines) between the southern abutment of the IDOT Bridge over the Raccoon River and SW McKinley Avenue (also location off Veterans Parkway Trail). The proposed alignment follows the west side of the IDOT Right-of-Way from Lincoln Street/Tyler Avenue to Creston Avenue. The trail will cross the highway at the signalized intersection at Creston Avenue and follow the east side of the IDOT Right-of-Way from Creston Avenue to SW McKinley Avenue.
- The City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department will maintain the trail facility within the City limits of Des Moines upon completion with the condition that design specifications meet the requirements of the Parks and Recreation Department and construction of the trail is completed in full from McKinley Avenue to the Raccoon River Bridge. Maintenance of this facility would include day to day operations as well as minor/major trail repairs. The sidepath trail corridor must be constructed to the Parks and Recreation Department's standards. Ownership will be established

by permanent easement or fee title acquisition. Engineering design is being coordinated with a Parks and Recreation Department liaison to verify compliance with the Department's standards for trail development.

- MoveDSM identifies 63rd Street as part of the future bike network, and the Southwest Infrastructure Planning Study also identifies the need for the facility.
- In 2020, Waldinger Corporation installed the trail section in front of their new headquarters development along the east side of 63rd Street from SW McKinley Avenue to Scout Trail, shown in red on the map below.
- In 2022, Paws & Pints installed the trail section in front of their new development along the east side of 63rd Street from Park Avenue to Willowmere Drive, shown in light blue on the map below.
- In 2022 and 2023, IDOT replaced the southbound Iowa Highway 28 bridge over the Raccoon River and added a 10-foot-wide trail along the west side of the bridge with the replacement facility, shown in orange on the map below.
- The City of West Des Moines plans to construct the trail section between the Iowa Highway 28 bridge over the Raccoon River and Lincoln Street (Levee Trail), shown in yellow on the map below.
- This project provides for construction of a 10-foot-wide trail, shown in green on the map below, generally along the east side of 63rd Street, that will connect the existing trail network along McKinley Avenue/Veterans Parkway to the new trail constructed with the replacement of the 63rd Street (Iowa Highway 28) southbound bridge over the Raccoon River by IDOT.
- The trail will cross to the west side of 63rd Street at Creston Avenue to connect to the new bridge infrastructure and will thereby involve updated curb ramp crossings at all sideroad intersections, as well as traffic signal updates to install pedestrian crossing infrastructure at the signalized intersections of Park Avenue and Creston Avenue in accordance with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.
- Construction of the City's trail project is anticipated to start in 2024.
- On July 21, 2023, under provisions of Iowa Code 6B.2D, notices of the proposed resolution authorizing acquisition of the necessary property interests for recreational trail purposes were mailed to each affected property owner, contract purchaser of record, and tenants known to be occupying the properties required for the Project.
- The affected property owners have the right to attend the City Council Meeting on August 7, 2023, to voice any objections to the proposed property interests to be acquired.
- Approximately 11 temporary construction easements and five (5) permanent easements are needed from nine (9) property owners to complete the construction of this project. Relocation assistance will not be required.

- The City of Des Moines multi-use trail counters logged an estimated 1,755,415 trail trips in 2022 across the system. It is anticipated that this number will increase year-by-year as the system continues to grow and gaps such as the one that will be filled by this project are completed.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: August 8, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-1227](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with HR Green, Inc. for 63rd Street Trail – McKinley Avenue to Raccoon River Bridge, not to exceed \$109,000. ([Council Communication No. 22-360](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Anticipated future actions related to this project include, ordering construction, receive and file bids, designate lowest bidder, and approve contract and bond; also partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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