


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	24-104	Meeting:	March 18, 2024
	Agenda Item:	36	Roll Call:	24-0433
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the purchase of landscape installation for Fleur Drive Medians Phase Three renovation project from Quality Cut Lawn Care LLC at a total project cost of \$247,710.95.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the bid by Quality Cut Lawn Care LLC for the Fleur Drive Medians Landscape Installation Project. The project is the third and final phase of the renovation of the Fleur Drive median landscape. This final phase will include medians 7 through 17 from Bell Avenue to Army Post Road, just past the airport.

FISCAL IMPACT:

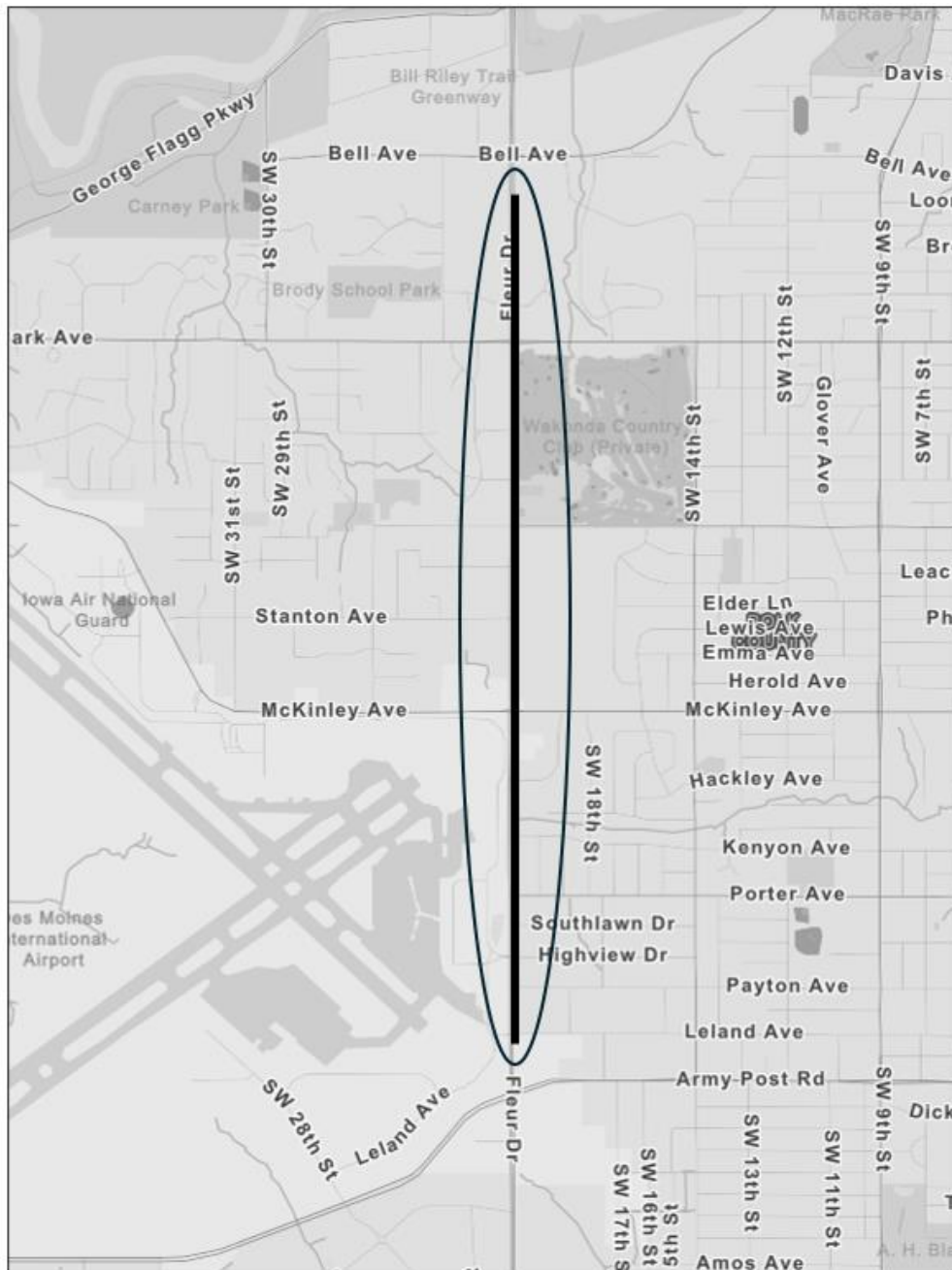
Amount: \$247,710.95 Construction Contract

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Recommended Capital Improvement Program (CIP), PK195 Fleur Drive Medians, Page 63, Being: GO Bonds; Private Contributions; Transfers in from Lillian Swartzell Betterment Trust, Swartzell City Projects, and Swartzell Public Projects in the amount of \$247,710.95

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Fleur Drive reconstruction provided an opportunity for a needed new approach to the Fleur Drive median plantings. A committee formed to guide the work included civic leaders John and Janis Ruan, Polk County Supervisor Matt McCoy, City Councilmember Josh Mandelbaum, staff from the City Manager's Office, Engineering and Parks and Recreation Departments, and Des Moines Water Works (DMWW) staff.
- Doug Hoerr, now Hoerr Schaudt, was hired with private funding to complete a comprehensive analysis of the Fleur Drive median plantings to update the selections to contain more resilient and sustainable plants and recommend a maintenance approach for the medians.
- Hoerr Schaudt's analysis included typography, microclimates, common flooding areas, site lines, accident data, and weed and soil problems. The proposed planting plan addresses the challenges specific to each median. The naturalized design will allow for greater flexibility for successful species to fill any gaps.

- The project involves removing the existing plant material and soil from each median, installing sub-drains, an amended soil mixture, irrigation, new plant material, and mulch. The City is responsible for the plant and soil removal, sub-drains, and irrigation. Grants and private donations pay for the new soil, plant material, installation, and mulch.
- The existing 28E Agreement with DMWW outlines the responsibilities of DMWW for the care and maintenance of the Fleur Drive medians.
- Installing the landscape for Medians 1 through 3 was completed in fall 2021 and Medians 4 through 6 was completed in the Fall of 2022. Median 1 starts on the northern end of Fleur Drive near the northwest entry into Gray's Lake Park, and Median 17 is at the southern end of Fleur Drive near the airport.
- Bids for the Fleur Drive median plant material and installation for Medians 7 through 17 were requested by the Procurement Department on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department. Seven bids for these medians were submitted with the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement submitted by Quality Cut Lawn Care LLC (Steve Darcy, President, PO BOX 65639, West Des Moines, IA 50265) in the amount of \$247,710.95, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.
- Installation for Fleur Drive Medians 7 through 17 is anticipated to be completed by fall 2024. Medians 7 through 11 will be a spring planting and Medians 12 through 17 will be planted in the fall.
- A private donation from the Ruan Family Foundation provided funding for the soil to be replaced on all Fleur Drive Medians 1 through 17 and for plant material and installation for Medians 7 through 17.
- This final phase will complete all the landscape median renovations for Fleur Drive.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 26, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0927](#)

Action: [Purchase](#) from Sehic G&S, LLC (Bajro Sehic, Owner) of landscape installation for Fleur Drive Medians Phase Two renovation project for use by the Parks and Recreation Department, \$119,503. (209 potential bidders, one (1) bid received). ([Council Communication No. 23-319](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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