

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2006/07 PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

This program was designed to provide a system of interconnected and safe pedestrian facilities. The program encompassed arterial street locations and supported the City-wide transportation goal of enhancing the quality of life in the Ames community with such facilities. The program was a revamp of the Pedestrian Walkway Program that was first introduced in the 2002/03 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). Public response to that initial program resulted in eliminating the program from the CIP until the program could be better defined through public input. An ad hoc Pedestrian Walkway Advisory Committee was subsequently formed and recommendations for the program were derived from this committee. **This program then prioritized sidewalk locations along arterial routes that coincide with the Safe Routes to School plans.** The Safe Routes to School plan was created by City staff in conjunction with Ames Community School District to identify pedestrian routes to the elementary and middle schools.

The 2006/07 project entailed placing a four-foot wide sidewalk on the east side of South Dakota Avenue from Lincoln Way south to the 400 block of South Dakota Avenue. All properties except one had sufficient right-of-way to accommodate a sidewalk. An easement was obtained from the one property that did not have sufficient right-of-way. This project was delayed in order to coincide with the street and sidewalk work planned for North Dakota Avenue.

During construction, inspectors with the Public Works Engineering Division found that some of the concrete sidewalk did not meet specifications. There were areas that were thinner than the specified depth and other areas that had a higher cross slope than is allowed in order to meet ADA requirements. Once these areas were identified, the contractor was required to remove and replace the concrete sidewalk within specification at no additional cost to the City.

On June 8, 2010, Council awarded the construction contract to MPS Engineers of West Des Moines, Iowa, in the amount of \$66,236.20. Construction was completed in the amount of \$73,042.82.

Engineering design and administration were in the amount of \$18,326, bringing total costs to \$91,369. This project had funding in an amount of \$133,000 from Local Option Sales Tax. The remaining funds will be used for additional shared use path projects, including rehabilitation of the path as part of the 2008/09, 2009/10, and 2010/11 Storm Sewer Outlet Erosion Control Project along College Creek.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept the 2006/2007 Pedestrian Walkway Program as completed by MPS Engineers of West Des Moines, Iowa, in the amount of \$73,042.82.
2. Direct Staff of pursue modifications to the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project has now been completed in compliance with the approved plans and specifications.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby accepting the 2006/2007 Pedestrian Walkway Program as completed by MPS Engineers of West Des Moines, Iowa, in the amount of \$73,042.82.