

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR 2011/12 SHARED USE PATH SYSTEM EXPANSION (SKUNK RIVER TRAIL – HUNZIKER YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX TO SOUTHEAST 16TH STREET)

BACKGROUND:

This program provides for construction of shared use paths on street rights-of-way, adjacent to streets, and through greenbelts. The Long Range Transportation Plan identifies those paths that separate bicycle traffic from higher-speed automobile traffic. This program supports one of the City Council's priorities, connecting our community. The 2011/12 program location is identified as the Skunk River Trail Extension, Hunziker Youth Sports Complex (HYSC) to Southeast 16th Street.

An agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) is required in order to utilize federal enhancement funds for this project. Staff has been in conversations with the Iowa DOT, who indicated that the earliest possible bid letting date is August 2012. This schedule would allow a contractor to begin construction in fall 2012, in order to avoid roosting dates for the Indiana Bat. That species of bat has not been identified in this area, but provision must be made to avoid construction during the roosting dates since the habitat is correct for this species. The construction completion date is May 2013 in order to allow for re-seeding of the construction area.

This program is identified in the 2011/12 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) in the amount of \$350,000 from Local Option Sales Tax and \$86,000 from Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)/Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. This brings the total project funding to \$436,000.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Iowa DOT Agreement 12-STPE-124 for STP funding for the 2011/12 Shared Use Path System Expansion (Skunk River Trail – Hunziker Youth Sports Complex to Southeast 16th Street).
2. Reject the Agreement.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By approving this agreement with the Iowa DOT, it will be possible to move forward with an important shared use path connection from the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex to the existing shared use path along SE 16th Street.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the Iowa DOT Agreement 12-STPE-124 for STP funding for the 2011/12 Shared Use Path System Expansion (Skunk River Trail – Hunziker Youth Sports Complex to Southeast 16th Street).



South River Valley

Old Town



2013 / 14

6TH ST

DUFF AVE

DAYTON AVE

LINCOLN WAY

ELINCOLN WAY

S 4TH ST

2016 / 17 Trail Paving

S DAYTON AVE

Squaw Creek

S DUFF AVE

IPL

2015 / 16 Bridge Construction & Bank Stabilization

Greenbriar

S 16TH ST

US HIGHWAY 30 RAMP

This Project

Ames Dog Park