

ITEM # 20
DATE: 06-09-15

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT FOR WEST LINCOLN WAY INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS (LINCOLN WAY AND FRANKLIN AVENUE)

BACKGROUND:

The 2015/16 Capital Improvements Plan under the West Lincoln Intersection Improvements program includes a project to construct left-turn lanes and installing new traffic signals at the Franklin Avenue/Lincoln Way intersection. A traffic impact study for the South Fork Subdivision justified these improvements. Turn lanes on Lincoln Way will mitigate left-turning, rear-end, and right-angle traffic accidents. Improvements will also support traffic coordination along Lincoln Way. An existing agreement requires the developer and the City to share equally in the construction cost (not the engineering service) of these improvements.

The City submitted a Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) grant application in 2014 to help cover up to \$500,000 of the cost of materials for this project. After reviewing the grant application, Iowa Department of Transportation officials have approved the request and submitted the funding agreement. This project is budgeted for land acquisition of \$125,000 from Road Use Tax funds. The engineering, construction and construction administration budget for this project is \$450,000 in G.O. Bonds, \$500,000 from Iowa DOT Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) funds, and approximately \$250,000 in Developer Funds. That brings the total project funding to \$1,325,000.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the TSIP agreement with the Iowa DOT in the amount of \$500,000.
2. Reject the agreement and fund the project locally.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approving the TSIP grant agreement will offset the amount of local funds needed for this project. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.

Veenstra and Kimm consulting engineers have been hired to conduct the land acquisition and design. The land acquisition phase will take the remainder of 2015, and design will be finalized in February of 2016. At that time we will solicit bids for the project.