

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2014/15 MORTENSEN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (SOUTH DAKOTA AVENUE TO DOTSON DRIVE)

BACKGROUND:

This project involved the widening of Mortensen Road from South Dakota Avenue to Dotson Drive to accommodate turn lanes, a bus acceleration lane, and consolidation of redundant bus stop locations. This section of roadway has experienced increasing traffic congestion due to on-street Cy-Ride stops in the area, commuter traffic from Iowa State University employees and students, ingress/egress traffic to the Ames Middle School, and increased traffic due to additional housing being constructed in the area. This widening project is shown in the 2014/15 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and in the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan.

On December 9, 2014, City Council awarded this project to Manatt's, Inc., of Ames, Iowa, in the amount of \$357,904.62. A balancing change order was administratively approved by staff in the amount of \$26,857.78, reflecting actual quantities installed in the field. Construction was completed in the amount of \$384,762.40. Engineering and contract administration costs totaled \$57,715, bringing overall project costs to \$442,477.40.

Through outreach discussions with adjacent property owners regarding the infrastructure improvements as part of this project, a cost share agreement was reached with one property owner. University West Apartments agreed to a 50/50 cost share for installation of sidewalk along their frontage in order to improve connectivity in the area. ***This resulted in University West Apartments paying \$10,546.21 for sidewalk installation.***

The City submitted a Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) grant application in 2013 to help cover the cost of materials for this project. After reviewing the grant application, Iowa Department of Transportation officials approved the request and awarded a TSIP grant in the amount of \$391,334. Program funding shown in the 2014/15 CIP includes \$110,000 in Road Use Tax funding. **Available funding for this project totals \$511,880.** Unspent Road Use Tax funds will be returned to the fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1 Accept the 2014/15 Mortensen Road Improvements (South Dakota Avenue to Dotson Drive) as completed by Manatt's, Inc., of Ames, Iowa, in the amount of \$384,762.40.
2. Direct staff to pursue modifications to the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project was completed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications and is within the approved budget. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.