ITEM # <u>15</u> DATE: <u>09-26-17</u>

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: IOWA FEDERAL RECREATION TRAIL GRANT FOR SOUTH GRAND AVENUE AND VET MED TRAIL

BACKGROUND:

This application is for grant funding to make trail improvements as part of the S Grand Avenue Extension and Vet Med Trail projects. The grant funding would include a portion of the Squaw Creek bridge crossing to be integral with the S Grand Avenue bridge. The grant funds would also cover part of paving the trail. The area covered by the grant application is noted in Attachments A and B as Phase 1.

Through coordination with Story County Conservation, the grant application demonstrates regional significance of this trail to the region including connection to the Highway R38 on street bike lanes. This regional connection is shown on Attachment B.

As part of the grant application, Iowa Department of Transportation officials request a resolution from the authority to be responsible for the maintenance and operation. The authority must provide written assurance it will adequately maintain the trail for its intended use and maintain the total trail used to justify the project in public use for a minimum of 20 years following project completion.

The Grand Avenue Extension continues to be included in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) with funding identified since 2013/14 and continuing through 2018/19. Funding shown in the CIP for 2017/18 and 2018/19 includes \$7,700,000 in G.O. Bonds, \$4,300,000 in MPO/STP Funds, and \$3,450,000 in Federal/State Grant Funds. In general, construction is anticipated to commence in 2018 with hopeful completion in 2020.

The Vet Med Trail paving project is included in the 2017-2022 CIP for paving in years 2019/20 and 2020/21 as a part of the S. Grand Avenue Extension construction. As shown on the attachment, additional future recreational trail grant funding is planned to be pursued for completion of this project.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council indicates its support for submission of the Iowa Federal Recreational Trail grant application in the amount of \$484,100 with assurance that any funded improvements will be adequately maintained for 20 years.

These funds are included in the \$3,450,000 of federal/state funding for the Grand Avenue Extension Project reflected above.

2. The City Council can direct staff to pursue alternative funding sources for this bridge and trail.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopting a resolution showing support for the Iowa Federal Recreational Trail grant application is one step in the continuing process of accomplishing the Grand Avenue Extension and Vet Med Trail projects.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.



