

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: IOWA CLEAN AIR ATTAINMENT PROGRAM (ICAAP) GRANT APPLICATION FOR GRAND AVENUE EXTENSION IMPROVEMENTS

BACKGROUND:

This project is part of the Grand Avenue Extension to extend South Grand Avenue to South 16th Street. The proposed project, as shown in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), involves the extension of South Grand Avenue south of the proposed 5th Street extension to the existing south stub section of South Grand Avenue (approximately 2800') through the area of the existing Coldwater Golf Course. The road will include a 10-foot wide shared use path west of and adjacent to vehicular lanes and a 5-foot wide sidewalk on the east side of the vehicular lanes. The proposed project will generate a marked improvement in reducing air borne automobile emissions and traffic congestion.

The Iowa DOT administers grants through the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) to help fund transportation projects and programs that result in attaining or maintaining the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). The program provides approximately \$4 million annually to fund projects with the highest potential for reducing transportation-related congestion and air pollution. **The Ames Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) unanimously voted to certify that this project conforms to the ICAAP program and the application was submitted on September 29, 2017. However, IDOT has requested a resolution from the governing authority and ,therefore, City Council action is necessary at this time.**

There are other requirements for this grant. First, an official certification from the governing body (in this case the City Council) is needed to commit the necessary local matching funding for project implementation and, upon project completion, to assume responsibility for adequately maintaining the project for public use during the project's useful life. Secondly, an end-of-project report on emissions benefits will also be required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize the ICAAP application for the Grand Avenue Extension Improvements project up to the maximum amount equaling 80% of the total estimated eligible project costs, and provide official certification in the form of a resolution to commit the necessary local matching funds for the project and to assume responsibility to maintain the facility for public use during the project's useful life.
2. Direct staff to withdraw this grant application from further consideration.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The ICAAP grant funding is available to aid in funding this project, which will help relieve traffic congestion along Lincoln Way (between Grand Avenue and South Duff Avenue) and South Duff Avenue (between Lincoln Way and South 5th Street). **The AAMPO TPC has previously certified that this project and application meet ICAAP program requirements.**

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, as noted above.