

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2006/07 PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY PROGRAM

BACKGROUND:

This program provides a system of interconnected and safe pedestrian facilities. The program encompasses arterial street locations and supports the City-wide transportation goal of enhancing the quality of life in the Ames community with such facilities. This program is a revamp of the Pedestrian Walkway Program that was first introduced in the 2002/03 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). Initial work on that program resulted in eliminating the program from the CIP until the program could be better defined through public input. An ad hoc Pedestrian Walkway Advisory Committee was subsequently formed, and recommendations for the program were derived from this committee. This program prioritizes the sidewalk locations along arterial routes that coincide with the Safe Routes to School plans.

This project entails placing a four-foot wide sidewalk on the east side of South Dakota Avenue from Lincoln Way south to the 400 block of South Dakota Avenue. The City has worked with one property owner to obtain an easement to allow the installation of the sidewalk. City staff has also coordinated with CyRide on improvements to a bus stop in the area.

Staff completed plans and specifications for this project with estimated construction costs of \$94,000. Engineering and construction administration costs are estimated at \$20,000. This project has funding of \$133,000 from Local Option Sales Tax.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the 2006/07 Pedestrian Walkway Program by establishing June 2, 2010, as the date of letting and June 8, 2010, as the date for report of bids.
2. Do not approve this project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By approving the plans and specifications, it will be possible to complete a valuable pedestrian connection as identified in the Safe Routes to Schools.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the 2006/07 Pedestrian Walkway Program by establishing June 2, 2010, as the date of letting and June 8, 2010, as the date for report of bids.