

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AND LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT MULTIMODAL FREIGHT AND HIGHWAYS PROJECTS GRANT PROGRAM AND RURAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDED BY INFRASTRUCTURE AND INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT (IIJA)

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Transportation has recently announced the joint notice of funding for the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program (MPDG) that is funded in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The MPDG grant combines one application to access three different federal funding opportunities.

Components of the grant application will include planning and design, street improvements, multi-modal improvements, traffic signal and phases of Intelligent Transportation System for the traffic network.

The grant application will combine the three separate CIP projects listed below into one overall project.

FY 2024/25 S. 16th Widening (\$3.88 million)
FY 2025/26 Intelligent Transportation System Program Phase 6 (\$1.2 million)
FY 2024/25 Traffic Signal Improvement Project (\$400,000)

The grant application will request funding for 80% of the project costs for both the capital and planning/design components. The project will bring multimodal connectivity and infrastructure investment into a regionally significant economic corridor that is also within a Historically Disadvantaged Area, indicated by the US Census Tracts.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. a. Approve the resolution of support for the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program (MPDG) application.

b. Authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the project application.
2. Do not approve the resolution of support or signature authorization for the application letter of support

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

If the City is successful in securing this grant, the local cost for the three projects shown above will be greatly reduced.

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



May 10, 2022

The Honorable Secretary Pete Buttigieg
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC, 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter of support confirming our community's enthusiasm and support of the S. 16th Street Multimodal Capital Project application for the Multimodal Freight and Highway Projects (MPDG) 2022 Grant Program. The goals and values set forth by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and MPDG—including safety, equity, connectivity, sustainability, quality of life, mobility and connectivity, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, and collaboration—closely align with the City Council's 2022 Goals and the pursuit of the City's Climate Action Plan that is currently underway.

The City of Ames strives to offer all residents safe connectivity and mobility throughout the community to promote education, reliable access to employment, and quality of life. The 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan approved annually by the City Council establishes a program of infrastructure investments through an equitable lens—balancing the needs of the community, the condition of roads and facilities, and public engagement throughout the development of the plan. Additionally, the City has adopted a strategy to include \$1.2 million of investment into multi-modal transportation each year of the 5-year CIP to promote carbon emissions reduction, good health, and diverse modes of transport.

Please consider our application in pursuit of improving the S. 16th Street Multimodal Corridor with improvements to the roadway, multi-modal facilities, traffic network, and accessibility. We believe MPDG funding, in conjunction with the City's capital commitments, will advance the transportation goals of inclusive and equitable transportation investment, job growth, improved reliability and safety along a primary arterial transportation corridor, and reduction of emissions throughout the community and historically disadvantaged areas adjacent to the corridor.

Respectfully Submitted,

John A. Haila
Mayor