

ITEM #: 42  
DATE: 05-14-24  
DEPT: ELEC

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: ISU SOUTHWEST RECREATION COMPLEX - ELECTRIC UTILITY  
EASEMENT ON STATE OF IOWA PROPERTY**

**BACKGROUND:**

There is an overhead electric line that crosses the Iowa State University Cross Country Course on Mortensen Road. Accessing the overhead electric line for operation and maintenance is challenging for both the Electric utility and for Iowa State University, since it involves crossing the turf of the Cross Country Course. The overhead electric line currently is not located in an electric utility easement.

Electric Services has reached an agreement with staff from Iowa State University Facilities Planning & Management and Recreation Services to relocate the subject overhead electric line. The line will bypass the Cross Country Course by connecting a newer set of overhead electric poles along State Avenue, through the Southwest Recreation Complex, to a point just west of Cap Timm Field. The route is shown on the attached map. **The new location for the overhead electric line will provide better access for operation and maintenance and will eliminate turf damage to the cross country course. The attached map also indicates the portion of line that will be removed.**

**The replacement line will have increased capacity over the existing line to accommodate projected electric load growth in the area. To accomplish this, the City and ISU must approve an agreement for an electric utility easement. The Iowa State Board of Regents is expected to approve the easement at the June 2024 Board meeting in exchange for \$1 in consideration.**

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the Electric Utility Easement on State of Iowa property (Southwest Recreation Complex) for the installation of the overhead electric line and removal of the overhead electric line from the State of Iowa property (Cross Country Course).
2. Do not approve the Electric Utility Easement on State of Iowa property (Southwest Recreation Complex) and direct Electric Services staff to find an alternative location for the overhead electric line.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The existing electric line is in a location that is challenging for both Electric Services to maintain and for ISU to accommodate. A new route has been identified that will provide for improved access and reduced conflicts with other use of the property. The relocated overhead electric line will be constructed with increased capacity, which will allow Electric Services to maintain the quality of service to the area. An easement on ISU property is required to install the overhead electric line for this project. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

2024-04-29.Easement \_City of Ames\_SW Recreation Complex(8416.1).pdf  
Easement Location Map.pdf