

ITEM #: 20
DATE: 01-14-25
DEPT: PW

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2022/23 SHARED USE PATH SYSTEM EXPANSION - GRAND AVENUE

BACKGROUND:

This program provides for construction of shared use paths on street rights-of-way, adjacent to streets, and through greenbelts. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) identifies those paths that separate bicycle traffic from higher-speed automobile traffic. **This project will construct a shared use path along the west side of Grand Avenue from Lincoln Way to 6th Street.**

At the October 10, 2023, meeting, City Council approved the engineering services agreement for this project with WHKS & Co. of Ames, Iowa in an amount not to exceed \$58,100.

Through the design of the project, one amendment to the engineering services agreement has been administratively approved by staff in the amount of \$5,200 was needed to examine multiple design options at the intersection of Grand Avenue & Allan Drive to meet CyRide's requirements for operations in the intersection.

Preliminary design has determined that a second, small retaining wall will be needed behind the existing Grand Avenue concrete barrier wall to accommodate the increased width of the shared-use path in the right-of-way. The need for the retaining wall was known at the time the project was initiated, and that cost has been factored into the project budget. However, staff did not know the needed length of the retaining wall until later in the design process.

DOT requires soil borings along the length of the proposed new wall. Now that the wall length is known, staff is requesting a contract change with WHKS to perform the borings and provide a geotechnical report. WHKS & Co. has provided an amendment to perform this work in an amount of \$9,900. This brings the cumulative total of amendments to \$15,100 which exceeds the 20% of original contract total limit, thus requiring City Council approval.

Once the plans for the project are near completion, staff will begin the permitting process through the Iowa DOT and the Union Pacific Railroad. Staff will also begin easement acquisition, as needed, to facilitate the project. Construction is currently anticipated for 2026.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Amendment No. 2 in the amount of \$9,900.
2. Do not approve the amendment and direct staff to pursue other options.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

By approving this amendment, the design of this project can move forward in compliance with Iowa DOT and retaining wall manufacturer guidelines. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Amendment no2 - Grand Ave SUP.pdf](#)

[2023 Aerial w Borings Protrait Trail.pdf](#)