



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

DATE OF MEETING: January 27, 2025

ITEM TITLE: Resolution to Endorse the Revitalization of 1st Street West: A Safe Path to Progress Project for Grant Funding

BACKGROUND:

This item was discussed at the October 7, 2024, Work Session, and the contract for assistance with the application was approved at the October 14, 2024, Council Meeting.

This proposed project will enhance multimodal transportation and improve safety and resiliency along the corridor by replacing and upgrading infrastructure that is coming to the end of its service life. The project will provide for the reconstruction of the existing 3-lane roadway to moderate the speed of traffic, a roundabout for the 20th Avenue intersection to accommodate future traffic volumes intersection improvements to increase safety. The 2nd Avenue and 9th Avenue signalized intersections are being studied to determine whether signal modifications/removals are warranted. ADA crossings will be provided at all intersections along the corridor. The project will also work to address existing safety concerns and pedestrian access along the corridor by providing an 8' wide trail and/or 5' wide sidewalk along both sides of the roadway with LED lighting for the entire length of the project. The overhead utility lines running along the corridor are also anticipated to be moved underground for improved resiliency and aesthetics. Storm sewers, sanitary sewers, and water mains are anticipated to be replaced under 1st Street West, including the main water and sanitary sewer lines running underneath the Wapsipinicon River. The proposed stormwater design will alleviate localized flooding and drainage concerns by providing improved conveyance and incorporating bioretention cells and rain gardens at strategic locations along the corridor.

DISCUSSION:

As part of applying for the RAISE Grant, Staff is requesting the Council pass a resolution endorsing the project and committing to a percentage funding level. After analysis and looking at the current projected cost of the project in 2024 dollars, \$17,206,680, as well as the STBG Funding amount that is already secured of \$1,389,000, it seems most beneficial to approve a percentage match of 10% which would mean the City would need to fund \$331,668 to match this at 10%. The City is applying for the grant based on 2030 dollars with a 2.5% per year inflationary factor applied, which makes the total project cost \$18,927,599. At a 10% match, the City would need to fund \$1,892,760, of which \$1,389,000 would be STBG, leaving \$503,760 remaining. This would be accounted for as we move forward, knowing that the planned bond issuance for spring 2025 includes \$336,000 for this project. The remaining amount would be allocated in future years as we move forward to construction should we be successful in this application.

RESULTS:

The City has established priorities during strategic planning sessions. This item supports the Vision from that session of Developing and Reviving Independence. This item helps achieve that vision by working to redevelop a critical area of 1st Street.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

The funds for this match will come from \$1,389,000 in already secured STBG funds through INRCOG, with the remaining amount needed to come from City funds, some of which are included in the planned 2025 Spring Bond issuance, to reach the proposed 10% match for the grant.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution to endorse the Revitalization of 1st Street West: A Safe Path to Progress Project for grant funding.