



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

DATE OF MEETING: October 7, 2024

ITEM TITLE: 1st Street West Reconstruction Project – RAISE Grant

DISCUSSION:

In talking with Ritland & Kuper (the architects who did the Community Visioning Study for us), we were trying to come up with ideas for how to get some of the projects identified through that process done. As we talked about that, I heard about RAISE grants being done in Waterloo and Dubuque through other contacts and asked Ritland & Kuper about them since they were involved at least in the Waterloo successful application. We met with RK and INRCOG to discuss how we could maximize the planned First Street West project from the bridge to 10th with this project, and as we talked through that, we determined that we could utilize the STBG funding already allocated to the City as our match for the RAISE Grant. At that point, I felt it made the most sense to expand the scope of the initial project to include the remainder of 1st Street West. RK indicated they would be happy to develop a proposal, but they would need an engineer on board to assist. After they told me that, we discussed asking Crawford Engineering to assist, but I asked them who they had worked with on other successful RAISE Grant projects, and they indicated that they had worked with AECOM. Knowing that AECOM did the First Street East project and that it had been successful, coupled with their recent success with other RAISE Grants, I felt it was best to have them partner with RK to move forward on the application side so that we could have the best chance possible of attaining the grant.

Attached is the proposal that Ritland & Kuper, in partnership with AECOM, has put together to work through the application process for a RAISE grant for the 1st Street West Corridor.

Staff would like to discuss with the council the next steps and get feedback regarding this option.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends discussion of this topic. No action is needed at this meeting, as any decision items needed would be brought forward to a City Council meeting for approval.