

## City of Jackson

**MEMO TO:** 

The Honorable Mayor Dwain Hahs and

Members of the Board of Aldermen

FROM:

Rodney Bollinger, Director of Administrative Services

DATE:

**September 18, 2024** 

**SUBJECT:** 

East Jackson Boulevard Roadway Lighting Project

**Governor's Transportation Cost Share Program** 

The purpose of the Governor's Transportation Cost Share Program is to build partnerships with local communities to pool efforts and resources to deliver road and bridge projects. This program is funded with a \$75 million General Revenue appropriation from the General Assembly. The program provides financial assistance to public and private applicants for public road and bridge projects satisfying a transportation need.

In September, the City of Jackson made application for the East Jackson Boulevard Roadway Lighting Project.

**Participation and funding:** The City's financial participation is 50% of the total cost to construct the project, which is estimated at \$1.9M. The source of local funds is a portion of the City's ARPA allocation.

**Expected benefits:** The infrastructure will help transform this corridor through Jackson into a well-lit facility that enhances the travel experience for all. The lighting project will improve access and provide increased safety for motorists. Whether it's a family trying to find their vacation destination, a truck driver navigating to and from the sand plant west of Jackson, or an employee returning home from work, a well-lit highway is essential.

Enhanced nighttime economic activity: Public street lighting supports economic growth by increasing the amount of time that people can spend on economic activities such as jobs, entertainment, and meals away from home at night. Research indicates that improved lighting can in fact increase street use after dark which would likely translate into enhanced economic activity. Many more people are willing to be out-of-doors after dark, there is a greater confidence in home and community and a general willingness to see things in a more positive

way. Good well-planned lighting on East Jackson Boulevard will make it easier for people to use it after dark.

Status of plans: The plans, specifications, and bid documents are substantially complete.

**Status of grant application:** On Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, the MoDOT cost share committee approved our application and awarded funds for the lighting project. Attached is MoDOT's award letter that outlines the amount awarded and the fiscal year the funds are to be programmed. Our next steps will be to begin drafting a cost share program agreement and to get a lighting agreement in place for the existing lights the City will take over on W. Jackson Blvd.

Thanks for your time and consideration of the information. Please contact me should you have any questions regarding this matter.