



To: Mayor and City Council

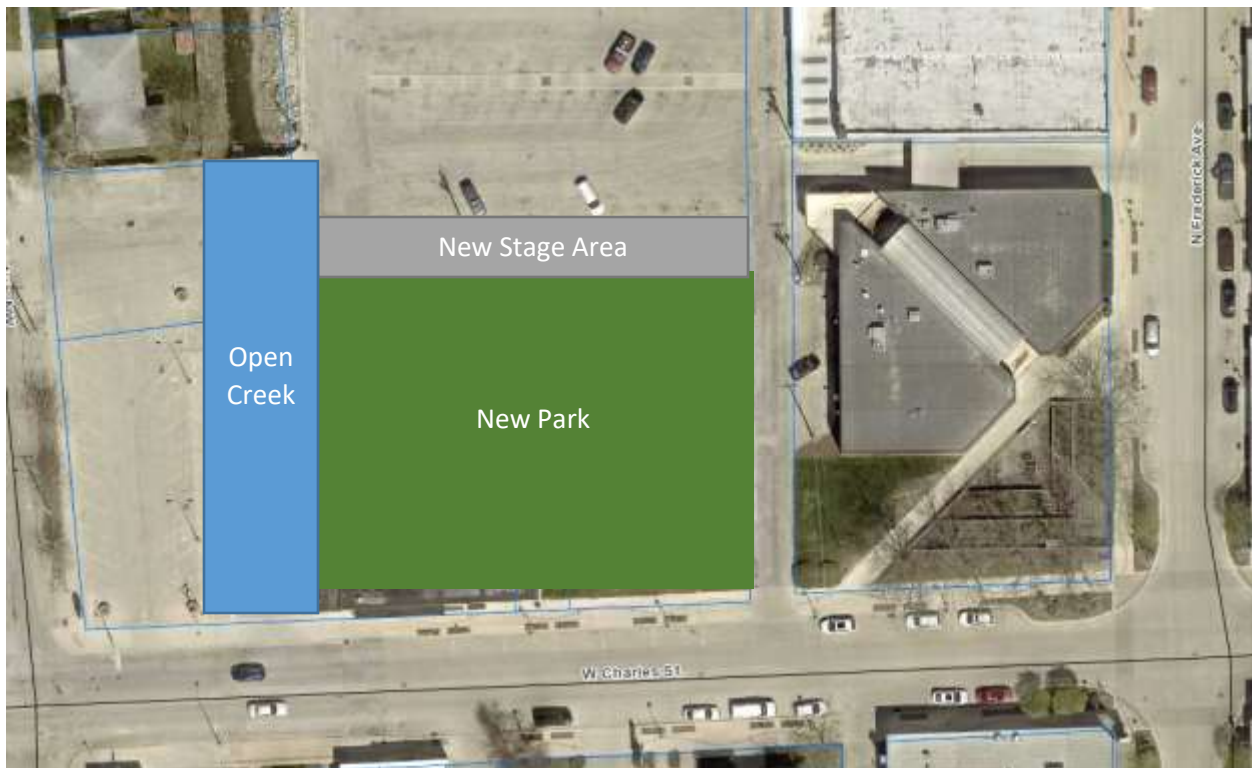
From: Dylan Mulfinger

Subject: Plaza Park Grant Opportunity

Date: 07/26/2021

The City has the opportunity with new Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to apply to expand Plaza Park. The grant is up to \$500,000. While this is not a priority of council, it aligns with future priorities well. One priority is removing the plaza to make room for the removal of the plaza bridge parking lot. This bridge parking lot structure will have to be removed when the city streets work on the Charles Street bridge. Removal of the building will save a large portion of the initial bridge project and will help expand the presence of the downtown park. A small committee in town is exploring new options for a community center. This grant will allow for removal of the existing community center and allow all new funds raised to go toward the construction of a new community center and not the tear down of the existing center.

Below is a rough idea of what I would like to move forward with and apply for CDBG funds.





## **Project**

The project entails complete removal of the plaza and adding green space and removal of the existing stage and adding a new band shell. The new band shell will be able to accommodate larger bands as party in the park expands. The new band shell would also include restrooms that would be used for all downtown events and be a great accommodation for the downtown. More area will allow for additional kid's space and the park expands. The new park will have more seating and help the process of expanding party in the park.

## **Timeline**

- Discussion and guidance from council July 26
- Procure Architects and Engineers in August
- Design Project in September and October
- Apply for federal funds in November of 2021
- Begin construction in April of 2022
- Late summer of 2022 complete the

## **Estimated Cost (very estimated)**

- \$80,000 tear down of the plaza
- \$20,000 asbestos removal
- \$20,000 existing band shell removal
- \$350,000 Band Shell Construction
- \$50,000 site prep and landscaping
- \$20,000 park seating accommodations
- \$50,000 engineering and architecture with project management
- \$10,000 grant management
- Total \$600,000

## **Funding**

- \$500,000 CDBG
- \$50,000 North East Iowa Charitable Organization
- \$50,000 future bond sale as part of the downtown sidewalk and trail connection project

Some adjustments will need to be made as the city is working toward a 25/75 match for the project.



Potential new band shell



Existing Park Area