



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Public Works

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: May 19, 2025

Re: Authorizing an Agreement for Professional Engineering Services with Great Rivers Engineering for design services relating to the I-70 Business Loop Corridor Study.

Executive Summary

Authorize the City Manager to execute a professional engineering services agreement with Great Rivers Engineering for design services relating to the I-70 Business Loop Corridor Study. The engineering design services agreement is for a not to exceed amount of \$ \$2,623,500.

Discussion

The Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) grant is a joint funding opportunity for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) and the Neighborhood Access and Equity (NAE) programs through the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). The purpose of the grant is to invest in surface transportation projects that will improve access to daily needs; foster development and restoration; and remove transportation related barriers. The City applied for and has been awarded this planning grant to complete a study of the I-70 Business Loop corridor. Great Rivers Engineering has been chosen to complete the study through the request for qualification process for professional engineering services.

The planning grant will study the I-70 Business Loop corridor between Stadium Boulevard and Eastland Circle. The study will include improving safety for both motorized and non-motorized users, improving accessible multimodal operations, providing aesthetics along the corridor, and improving economic vitality. The improvements strive to reinvigorate the corridor, connect communities, and support a growing network of services, education opportunities, and commercial centers along the corridor.

The study will include:

1. Engaging in community outreach
2. Evaluation of the environmental items related to the NEPA review process
3. Evaluation of conceptual alternatives
 - a. Multi-modal transportation implementation (vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists)
 - b. Access management
 - c. Intersection improvements
 - d. Stormwater improvements
 - e. EV charging stations optimal locations
 - f. Streetscape and beautification elements
4. Development of preliminary plans
5. Development of a stormwater master plan.



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

The Business Loop Community Improvement District (Loop CID) and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) are core stakeholders with the City in implementing the project. The Loop CID works to improve and revitalize the Business Loop between College Ave and I-70 DR SW and the entire length of I-70 Business Loop is owned and maintained by MoDOT. The total anticipated study cost is \$2,623,500 and a 20% local match is required. Funding for the City's match will be from the quarter-cent capital improvement program sales tax.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The City's local match of \$500,000 will be funded by the quarter-cent capital improvement program sales tax.

Long-Term Impact: Unknown.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Inclusive and Equitable Community, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
09/16/2024	B227-24 Authorizing neighborhood access and equity program agreements with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission and the United States Department of Transportation for the I-70 Business Loop corridor study.
09/08/2023	R136-23 Authorizing application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) planning grant to study the I-70 Business Loop corridor between Stadium Boulevard and Eastland Circle.

Suggested Council Action

Authorize the City Manager to execute a professional engineering services agreement with Great Rivers Engineering for design services relating to the I-70 Business Loop Corridor Study.