



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: City Manager

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 16, 2023

Re: A resolution approving a final design narrative to incorporate enhancements into the MoDOT Interstate 70/Highway 63 interchange design-build project and expressing support for local participation in funding of the enhancement project

Executive Summary

Public Works and the Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB) hired Lochmueller Group to complete a design narrative for interchange enhancements to the Interstate 70/US 63 interchange. The design narrative in a design-build project is intended to provide guidance to the design-build team for incorporation of the desired enhancements in the final design of the project. This design narrative was developed via a public process which included an interested parties meeting on May 17, 2023 and a public hearing on June 20, 2023. That narrative is now complete and ready for review. Council action also expresses support for local financial participation in the enhancement project from the City.

Discussion

On July 6, 2022, the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission approved \$140 million for an Interstate 70/Highway 63 connector reconfiguration project. The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) will use the design-build process for the design and construction of these improvements. Therefore, the exact design elements that will be incorporated into the project are not known at the start of the project and will develop through the request for proposal process. However, the design narrative will be provided to the design-build teams by MoDOT for use in the development of their proposals.

MoDOT is willing to include enhancements or beautification as part of the overall project. However, the cost must be funded by others. At this current stage of the project, MoDOT is in need of a commitment from the City so that they can proceed with having the design-build teams include enhancements as part of their proposals. The included Resolution is intended to provide MoDOT this necessary assurance. Actual funding is not anticipated to be necessary until the first quarter of calendar year 2024.

These enhancement design concepts are intended to provide an attractive appearance that reflects Columbia and will draw people into the City. These enhancements also set a precedent for other bridges over Interstate 70 which will be examined as part of MoDOT's initiative to widen Interstate 70 from Kansas City to St. Louis. Enhancements are anticipated to include hardscape and landscape areas. Examples of hardscape elements could include decorative signal poles and roadway lighting, decorative bridge facades, decorative bridge end components, decorative retaining walls, accent lighting, etc. Maintenance of these enhancements will be provided by the City with some landscaping enhancements possibly maintained by various groups adopting each area.



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Incorporation of bicycle and pedestrian improvements to the Interstate 70/US 63 interchange area will be included in the base design of the project.

An interested parties meeting was held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023. At the meeting, enhancement design concepts were displayed and members of the public were able to review and comment on the elements. A public hearing was held on June 20, 2023. Construction of the improvements is expected to begin in 2025 and take several years to complete. Additional improvements to Interstate 70 are also anticipated toward the end of this decade.

Funding for the enhancements will be provided through public and private funding sources. It is anticipated that the total funding needed by the City and its public and private partners will be approximately \$3 million. However, that is somewhat dependent on the awarded design-build scope for the project. The City currently anticipates contributing approximately \$1.5 million of its own funds. The funds will be taken from the investment income capital project account.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Anticipated costs following public/private donations of approximately \$1,500,000.

Long-Term Impact: Maintenance of the enhancements constructed as part of the project.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Resilient Economy, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Land Use & Growth Management, Tertiary Impact: Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility

Legislative History

| Date | Action |
|------------|---|
| 06/20/2023 | PH25-23 Public Hearing for Interstate 70/Highway 63 Interchange enhancement design concepts. |
| 06/05/2023 | R83-23 Setting a public hearing: considering approval of enhancement design elements associated with Missouri Highways and Transportation Commissions' Interstate 70 and U.S. Highway 63 connector reconfiguration project. |

Suggested Council Action

Authorize a Resolution approving a final design narrative to incorporate enhancements into the MoDOT Interstate 70/Highway 63 interchange design-build project and expressing support for local participation in funding of the enhancement project.