



December 6, 2018

Sent Via Email

R. Todd Ashby, AICP
 Executive Director
 Des Moines Area MPO
 420 Watson Powell, Jr. Way, Suite 200
 Des Moines, IA 50309

**RE: Surface Transportation Block Grant Set-Aside Program –
 Requested Funding Changes for City of Des Moines Streetscapes**

Dear Mr. Ashby:

The City of Des Moines requests \$750,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Set-Aside funding be moved from the Ingersoll Avenue Streetscape – Phase 2 and Highland Park Streetscape to the 6th Avenue Streetscape Project Phase 2 (College to University) and the remaining \$246,000 be released back into the STBG program as summarized below.

Existing Approved City of Des Moines STBG Set-Aside FY2020 Streetscape Funding

Ingersoll Avenue Streetscape – Phase 2	\$518,000	FY2020
Highland Park Streetscape	\$478,000	FY2020
6 th Avenue Streetscape Project Phase 2 (College-University)	\$783,000	FY2020
Total Des Moines STBG Set-Aside Streetscape Funding	\$1,779,000	FY2020

Requested City of Des Moines STBG Set-Aside FY2020 Streetscape Funding

Ingersoll Avenue Streetscape – Phase 2	\$0	
Highland Park Streetscape	\$0	
6 th Avenue Streetscape Project Phase 2 (College-University)	\$1,533,000	FY2020
Total Des Moines STBG Set-Aside Streetscape Funding	\$1,533,000	FY2020

Requested Amount Released Back to STBG Program \$246,000

Since being approved for total of \$518,000 in STBG Set-Aside (formerly Surface Transportation Program – Transportation Alternatives Program) funds for the Ingersoll Avenue Streetscape – Phase 2, the Ingersoll-Grand Commercial Urban Renewal Area has seen substantial increase in property valuation resulting in better than anticipated tax increment revenues. Therefore, the City proposes to fund the Ingersoll Avenue Streetscape – Phase 2 with tax increment financing and Ingersoll Grand Self-Supported Municipal Improvement District funds, and requests the STBG Set-Aside funds be moved as summarized above.

Since being approved for a total of \$478,000 in STBG Set-Aside funds for the Highland Park Streetscape, the City has not been able to secure any private funding to help fund the project. Therefore, the City requests the STBG Set-Aside funds be moved as summarized above.

The 6th Avenue Streetscape project includes reducing the number of travel lanes from 5-lanes to 3-lanes and construction of wider sidewalks, bus shelters, street trees, green infrastructure, landscaping, benches, bike racks, and other pedestrian amenities.

The 6th Avenue Streetscape is planned to be constructed over three phases from Hickman Road to I-235:

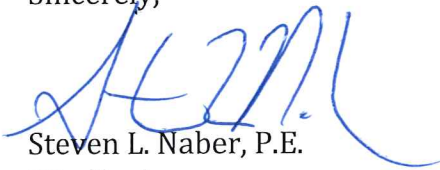
- Phase 1 will include Hickman Road to College Avenue.
- Phase 2 will include College Avenue to University Avenue.
- Phase 3 will include University Avenue to I-235.

The 6th Avenue Streetscape Phase 1 construction contract has been awarded to Hawkeye Paving and is anticipated to be completed in spring 2020. The Phase 2 construction is expected to start in 2020.

The 6th Avenue Corridor Group has raised and provided a substantial amount of private funding toward the 6th Avenue Streetscape project and ultimately will be contributing over \$1 Million in private funds toward the project. The 6th Avenue Streetscape is also located in an Environmental Justice Area. The City considers the 6th Avenue Streetscape a high priority project with goals of revitalizing the corridor and making improvements that will enhance all modes of transportation. Therefore, the City requests a total of \$750,000 in STBG Set-Aside funding be moved from the Ingersoll Avenue Streetscape – Phase 2 and Highland Park Streetscape to the 6th Avenue Streetscape Project Phase 2 (College to University).

If you have any questions or comments on the proposed approach, please contact Jennifer McCoy at (515)283-4549 or me at (515)283-4563.

Sincerely,



Steven L. Naber, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Scott E. Sanders, City Manager
Pamela S. Cooksey, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Thomas C. Vlach, P.E., Deputy City Engineer – Design & Construction
Michael G. Ludwig, AICP, Planning Administrator
Kyle Larson, AICP, Senior City Planner
Jennifer L. McCoy, P.E., City Traffic Engineer
David Kamp, P.E., Chief Design Engineer