



Legislation Text

File #: 17-0211, **Version:** 1

Resolution No. 1 - Prepare Plans and Specifications for the Proposed Federal/Commerce/Green Sidewalk Special Assessment Project

Approval of the attached resolution directs staff to prepare plans, specifications, and cost estimates to fill in the sidewalk gaps along Federal Boulevard, Commerce Boulevard and Green Road as a special assessment project.

The construction costs to eliminate these sidewalk gaps will be partially funded by the Federal Surface Transportation Fund (STP). The City's ability to use federal funds for this project will also create the opportunity for the private property owners to receive the sidewalk improvements at less than the standard rates.

There are currently gaps in the sidewalk on the north side of Federal Boulevard between Stadium Boulevard and Commerce Boulevard; on the northside of Commerce Boulevard beginning at Federal Boulevard for approximately 450 feet; and on the east side of Green Road between the two intersections with Burbank Drive. These gaps are approximately 2,550 feet in length. In accordance with the City's Non-Motorized Plan and Complete Streets approach, it is proposed to install a new sidewalk to close these gaps and provide continuous pedestrian connections at these locations. The construction of the sidewalk will also require the removal of some trees and the relocation of DTE utility poles.

As called for in Chapter 13 of City Code, the cost for the addition of new sidewalk, where none currently exists is borne by the parcels that benefit from the improvements. Because this is a federal-aid project, up to 80% of the construction cost of the sidewalk would be paid by federal Surface Transportation Funds. The remainder of the costs would be local share.

The project may also require the City to obtain some temporary grading easements from adjacent property owners. As required by MDOT, staff will estimate the value of the grading permits following MDOT's procedures and offer the property owners reasonable compensation for the grading permits granted to the City. Any property owner that chooses may donate their grading permit to the project at no cost, or ask for the value of the grading permit to be factored into the calculation for the special assessment items as an offset to some of their special assessment cost.

The attached resolution directs staff to provide and share cost estimates for this work once it is designed. Nine parcels have been identified as potentially being part of the special assessment district.

If authorized to undertake this work as a special assessment project, staff will meet with the affected property owners to describe the project and its associated costs. Following that meeting, staff will return to Council with Resolution 2, which will define the estimated individual costs to each parcel.

Below is a tentative schedule for the project:

March 20, 2017: Council Meeting - Resolution 1
July 2017: Administrative Hearing Meeting(s) with property owners
August 2017: Council Meeting - Resolution 2
November 2017: Resolution 3
December 2017: Public Hearing & Resolution 4
April/May 2018: Begin construction

Budget Impact

This project is scheduled to receive Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funding for Fiscal Year 2019, which typically pays for up to 80% of the construction cost of the project. In addition to special assessments, the local share of the project will be funded by the Street, Bridge, and Sidewalk Millage Fund.

Prepared by: Nicholas Hutchinson, P.E., City Engineer

Reviewed by: Craig Hupy, Public Services Area Administrator

Approved by: Howard S. Lazarus, City Administrator

Whereas, Council deems it necessary to construct the following improvement:

Federal/Commerce/Green Sidewalk Project; described as:

Construction of sidewalk fronting parcels along Federal Boulevard between Stadium Boulevard and Commerce Boulevard; Commerce Boulevard from Federal Boulevard east for 450 feet; and on the east side of Green Road between the two intersections with Burbank Drive.

RESOLVED, The City Administrator be directed to prepare plans and specifications for said improvement project, and an estimate of the cost thereof;

RESOLVED, The City Administrator be directed to file a report of same with the City Clerk, including a recommendation as to what proportion of the cost should be paid by special assessment and what part, if any, should be a general obligation of the City, the number of installments in which the assessments may be paid, and the land which should be included in the special assessment district; and

RESOLVED, The City Clerk shall present said report to the Council and make it available for public examination.