

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**  
**REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP**  
**JULY 8, 2008 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Prairie Avenue Reconstruction and Resurfacing – Project Status	Resolution Ordinance Motion ✓ Discussion Only	Robin A. Weaver Interim Director of Public Works

**SYNOPSIS**

Discussion about the Prairie Avenue Reconstruction and Resurfacing project is requested.

The Prairie Avenue Reconstruction and Resurfacing project involves three phases:

1. Utility improvements, including water main replacement and sanitary and storm sewer work (Village)
2. Prairie Avenue resurfacing (IDOT)
3. Intersection improvements at Main Street and Prairie Avenue, including right-of-way acquisition (IDOT)

Originally all three phases were to be let at the same time, but the final negotiations for land acquisition with property owners have not been completed and thus IDOT's May letting could not be made.

To allow for construction of the majority of the work to be completed in 2008, IDOT is allowing the project to be let in three separate phases. The Village Council will be asked to approve a utility improvements construction contract with Trine Construction of West Chicago, Illinois, and an addendum to the engineering and design services agreement with GC Engineering of Downers Grove, Illinois, under the Village Attorney's Report on July 8, 2008.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

The Five Year Plan and Goals for 2007-2012 identified *Top Quality Village Infrastructure and Facilities*. A supporting objective of this goal is *Improve Neighborhood Infrastructure Curbs, Gutters, Streets, Sidewalks, Stormwater and Drainage System*.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Information only.

**BACKGROUND**

In January 2006, the Village was awarded a Surface Transportation Program grant from the Federal Highway Administration for the reconstruction and resurfacing of Prairie Avenue from Belmont Road to Fairview Avenue. This grant supports 70 percent of the costs related to this project. The Village is responsible for the remaining 30 percent share.

On February 7, 2006, the Village Council awarded a contract for the engineering and design of the reconstruction of Prairie Avenue to GC Engineering (formerly Daniel J. Loftus & Associates, LLC) in the amount of \$270,851. In accordance with the policies and procedures of IDOT and the Federal Highway

Administration, the design, plan, specification and estimates for the reconstruction of Prairie Avenue were completed in September 2007 in time to be included in IDOT's March 2008 construction letting.

During the course of the design development it was determined that minor right-of-way acquisition would be required at four parcels near the intersection of Prairie Avenue and Main Street to facilitate the reconstruction and traffic signal work. As a result the Village was required to commence the Federal Land Acquisition Procedures as administered by IDOT. Plats of Survey were prepared and reviewed by IDOT. The parcels were appraised by an independent and qualified appraisal company, and subsequent offers were made to property owners. While many of the needed tasks were completed and readied for the right-of-way certification deadline in January, the final negotiations with property owners and coordination with the IDOT Bureau of Land Acquisition on their certification requirements were not completed and the letting schedule could not be made. Subsequent attempts to negotiate and close on the properties have been unsuccessful. Staff continues to negotiate with the property owners, but it does not seem likely the acquisitions will be completed in time for the next IDOT letting. The intersection improvements portion of the project will likely begin in the spring of 2009.

In an attempt to begin the necessary utility improvements (sanitary, water and storm sewer) on Prairie Avenue during the 2008 construction season, staff has prepared a plan for staged construction, to which IDOT has agreed. The staged construction separates the three phases for individual letting and will allow the utility improvements to commence before the rest of the contracts have been secured. The utility improvements are a Village project and are not supported by any grant funding and so can be done before any IDOT work is commenced. For this reason, IDOT has agreed to allow the Village to let this portion of the project before IDOT's portions.

The proposed utility improvements construction contract includes water main replacement and sanitary and storm sewer work. It is staff's expectation that when the utility improvements have been completed, IDOT will have readied its resurfacing contract to begin immediately upon the conclusion of the utility work. The timeline for the subsequent IDOT resurfacing contract is as follows.

- July 18 – Completion of Stage I Plans, Specifications and Estimates
- July 21 – IDOT Letting
- July 29 – Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting for all interested contractors
- August 4 – Bid Opening
- August 12 (workshop), August 19 (meeting) – Village Council Consideration of IDOT Resurfacing Contract
- September 1 – Contractor Commencement

There is the potential that though the utility improvements will be completed, IDOT may not have a resurfacing contract ready for the 2008 construction season. If this is the case, the Village would be responsible for the temporary resurfacing along portions of Prairie Avenue, which would be replaced by permanent resurfacing in the spring of 2009 by IDOT. An estimated cost for temporary resurfacing would be approximately \$150,000. This expense would be incurred by the Village and would be a separate contract approved by the Village Council at a later date.

Because of the extremely poor condition of Prairie, staff recommends moving forward with the utility improvements with the understanding that temporary resurfacing may be required by the Village in the fall of 2008.

The FY08 Capital Projects Fund includes \$4,100,000 for this project. The Federal Surface Transportation Program grant supplies 70 percent of the funding necessary for the resurfacing of Prairie Avenue and intersection improvements at Prairie Avenue and Main Street. The Village's portion of the project includes the following costs (not subject to grant funding).

<b>Service</b>	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Contract Amount</b>	<b>Date of Approval</b>
Resident Engineering	Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.	\$204,551.63	May 5, 2008
Engineering and Design	GC Engineering	\$333,011.00	July 8, 2008
Utility Improvements	Trine Construction	\$501,824.60	July 8, 2008
Materials Testing	<i>Not yet awarded</i>	\$40,000 (estimate)	August
Temporary Resurfacing (potential)	<i>Not yet awarded</i>	\$150,000 (estimate)	September
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,229,387.23</b>	

The current cost estimate for the project is tracking under budget at \$3.7 million. This estimate includes the proposed addendum to the engineering and design agreement.

**ATTACHMENTS**

CIP Sheet

