



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Council Session

## Item G11

**#2011-85 - Approving Program Agreement with Nebraska  
Department of Roads for US-30 Drainage Improvement Project**

Staff Contact: John Collins, Public Works Director

# Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Scott Griepenstroh, Project Manager

**Meeting:** April 12, 2011

**Subject:** Approving Program Agreement with Nebraska  
Department of Roads for US-30 Drainage Improvement  
Project

**Item #'s:** G-11

**Presenter(s):** John Collins, Public Works Director

## Background

The recent US Highway 30 Widening project on Second Street from Grant Street to Greenwich Street was designed to outlet storm water into the City's storm sewer system. The purpose of the "Wasmer Detention Cell" project was to construct storm sewer to the detention cell at the former location of the Wasmer Elementary School from connections on Second Street at Logan Street, Broadwell Avenue, and Madison Street. The improvements would significantly reduce the likelihood of flooding during storm events on Second Street. The project included constructing drainage inlets on First Street and Division Street between Logan Street and Madison Street, which would provide drainage relief in those areas as well.

In 2007, the "Wasmer Detention Cell" project was approved to receive Federal Funding through the Surface Transportation Program (STP), which typically only requires a 20% match of City funds. However, during the delays that occurred due to increased oversight of Federal Aid Transportation projects, the eligibility of this project to receive federal funding was questioned. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) determined that they would not participate in any drainage improvements unless it was specifically for drainage coming off a Federal Route and one block each side. In other words, they affirmed that they would not participate in costs for addressing drainage from local streets and adjacent properties.

In December of 2010, the City contracted Kirkham-Michael to perform a study to determine the appropriate level of funding for this project. Public Works, Kirkham Michael, the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) and FHWA met February 15, 2011 to review the study. The conclusion of the study was that 77% of the overall drainage area was from participating (Federal-Aid eligible) drainage sub-basins and 23% was from non-participating (non-eligible) drainage sub-basins.

Decisions resulting from the February 15, 2011 meeting are as follow.

- The existing project “Wasmer Detention Cell” is to be terminated and the new project “US-30 Drainage Improvements” is to be programmed. This was decided so that the project emphasizes drainage relief for Federal Routes (Second Street and Broadwell Avenue).
- The original design prepared for the “Wasmer Detention Cell” project is the best design and construction solution for drainage relief of US Highway 30 from Tilden Street to Madison Street.
- The new project will be required to go through the entire National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) clearance process.
- FHWA agreed to participate on 77% of the construction costs, which STP funding would then be applied on an 80/20 basis. The actual funding split will be 61.6% Federal Aid and 38.4% local funds.
- FHWA agreed to participate 100% on the costs for any additional Preliminary Engineering and the NEPA clearance process (80% Federal Aid and 20% Local Funds).

## **Discussion**

A Project Programming Request for the new “US-30 Drainage Improvements” project was prepared by Public Works and approved by the Nebraska Department of Roads. The total cost of the new “US-30 Drainage Improvements” project, including preliminary engineering, is currently estimated to be \$876,696. The estimated portion the City of Grand Island is responsible for is \$327,985.

Additional preliminary engineering is required to address utility conflicts, develop traffic phasing plans, modify current plans to connect with storm sewer as constructed during the Highway 30 widening project, and to prepare the project for bid letting through NDOR. Construction is anticipated to be completed in 2012.

The Project Program Agreement between the City of Grand Island and Nebraska Department of Roads specifies the various duties and funding responsibilities of this Federal-aid project. The Project Program Agreement must be executed before the project can move forward.

The Project Program Agreement must be authorized by the Mayor’s signature for the City of Grand Island the before it can be fully executed.

## **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee

3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

### **Recommendation**

Public Works Administration recommends that the Council approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement.

### **Sample Motion**

Move to approve authorization for the Mayor to sign the agreement.

RESOLUTION 2011-85

WHEREAS, in 2007 the “Wasmer Detention Cell” project was approved to receive Federal Funding through the Surface Transportation Program (STP); and

WHEREAS, during delays that occurred due to increased oversight of Federal Aid Transportation project, the eligibility of this project to receive federal funding was questioned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); and

WHEREAS, the FHWA determined that they would not participate in any drainage improvements unless is was specifically for drainage coming off a Federal Route and one block each side; and

WHEREAS, a December 2010 study performed by Kirkham Michael concluded that 77% of the overall drainage area was from participating (Federal-Aid eligible) drainage sub-basins and 23% was from non-participating (non-eligible) drainage sub-basins; and

WHEREAS, the original “Wasmer Detention Cell” project has been terminated and a new project, US-30 Drainage Improvements, has been programmed; and

WHEREAS, the total project cost is currently estimated at \$876,696, with \$327,985 being the responsibility of the City of Grand Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the Program Agreement by and between the City and the Nebraska Department of Roads and the City of Grand Island is hereby approved; and the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute such contract and related documents on behalf of the City of Grand Island.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, April 12, 2011.

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Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form    ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
April 7, 2011            ☐ City Attorney