# City of Hiawatha

## Engineering Department

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**To: Mayor and City Council** **Date: February 19, 2019**

**From: John Bender PE, City Engineer**

**Re: February 2019**

**Description: Engineering Department Report**

- Working with Public Works on various projects.
- Working with the Community Development Department to review building site plans, final plats, and rezoning requests. Projects under way include the Todd Hills 1st Addition, Sherman Square 9th Addition, Dave Wright Expansion, Pecks Landing, and several new commercial site plans.
- We are now have the Village Center engineering design contract approved and have started the work on the extension of "A" Avenue to serve the Oakbrook redeveloped property. The schedule is to construct this project in 2019.
- We approved a contract with Shive Hattery engineers to start the design work for the new signal at Center Point Road and Willman Street. We have had one preliminary review meeting with a draft concept plan. What we have discovered is the existing brick sidewalks and trail no longer meet the current ADA standards. We are now looking at expanding the project to remove and replace the existing crosswalks and sidewalks required when the sidewalks have been rebuilt, due to the new signal bases and wiring. We will bring a new proposal to council after we develop a new concept plan.
- The sanitary sewer extension project on the east side of Edgewood Road approximately 2000 feet south of Hunt Road and the replacement of the Mitchell drive pressure line is well underway. Maxwell Construction from Iowa City has the work completed on Mitchell Drive. The work on Edgewood Road will take place weather permitting. The completion date for the entire project is next spring.
- We have approved a contract with Anderson Bogert Engineers to start the study of railroad crossing "quiet zones" on Center Point Road, Emmons Street, and possibly Blair's Ferry Road. We need to develop a "letter of intent" for these proposed improvements that allow the trains to eliminate the horn warnings at these crossings. We are now pulling all the information together. The study will take several months to complete so we want to get started on this needed process.

- Council has authorized moving ahead with the Robins Road Planning Study for the area between the new intersection at Center Point Road and Boyson Road. Our consultant, Bolton Menk of Cedar Rapids, held the second steering committee meeting February 5th and the second public open house is planned for February 26th at 5;00 PM. The information regarding new concept proposals can be found on the Hiawatha website at www.hiawatha-iowa.com/news/robinsroadstudy.

- The Metropolitan Planning Organization has finalized the Tower Terrace Roadway Corridor Management Study. The study will be considered by the MPO Policy Board in March with each agency approving the study as a guide to move forward with the planning of this important transportation corridor.

- The new Tower Terrace Interchange design is moving forward. This project is scheduled to start construction in fiscal year 2021. The environmental document for the project has been approved and the recently completed Interchange Justification Report (IJR) has been reviewed and sent to the Federal Highway Administration for approval. The Iowa DOT has rescheduled the public hearing on this project for February 28, 2019 at the Hiawatha Community Center. More information can be found at: www.iowadot.gov/pim .

- City staff advertised for interested consultants to submit qualifications for an Environmental Study/NEPA Study /Preliminary and Final Design of the City's project, approximately 2000 feet of Tower Terrace reconstruction. The process is to determine the most qualified firm for our project, and then negotiate a scope, schedule, and fee contract in order to proceed with the project. The committee received six responses for the RFQ for the Tower Terrace road design from the Iowa DOT interchange through the North Center Point Road intersection. At the steering committee meeting February 1st, the committee evaluated the submitted consultant qualifications and determined the top 2 proposals were submitted by Snyder and Associates and Anderson Bogert Engineers, both of Cedar Rapids. The committee felt the best option was to interview the top 2 firms to meet the staff assigned to the project and ask any questions related to their qualifications and project approach. After interviews on February 7th and 8th, the committee determined the most qualified firm for this project was the firm of Snyder and Associates. An agenda item will be added to the next meeting to approve moving forward with Snyder and Associates.

I am sure there are other projects I failed to include in the report, but feel free to contact me with questions at any time.