City of Hiawatha

Engineering Department

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To: **Mayor and City Council** **Date: October 31, 2018**

From: John Bender PE, City Engineer

Re: **October 2018 Update**

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.
- The Emmons/Robins/North Center Point Road intersection reconstruction project is now complete and accepted. We are now working with the future land owner as redevelopment of the surrounding property is planned to start this fall or next spring.
- The 2018 Robins Road Pavement rehabilitation project is now complete. LL Pelling from North Liberty completed the project in less than 2 weeks. We will be preparing the final out documents for acceptance by the City Council.
- We are working to update our construction specifications for all work done in Hiawatha to the Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Program. (SUDAS). We are reviewing the documents in conjunction with Cedar Rapids and both cities plan to replace the Metro Design Standards used since about 2006. The schedule for adoption is now set for the first of next year to start the new construction season.
- We conducted the pre-construction meeting for the sanitary sewer extension on the east side of Edgewood Road approximately 2000 feet south of Hunt Road and the replacement of the Mitchell drive pressure line. Maxwell Construction from Iowa City was the low bidder. We plan to start construction the week of November 5th. The Mitchell Drive pressure line replacement will be completed by mid-December. The completion date for the entire project is next spring.
- 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. We had several firms that responded to the

Statement of Qualifications and we are recommending a contract be awarded to Bolton Menk, of Cedar Rapids. We have a resolution ready for Council to approve the contract. The study will take several months to complete so we anticipate a late spring completion date. The plan is for the steering committee to start meeting in December. We have several staff, Council, and property owners in mind to recommend for this committee appointment. The plan is for the steering committed to meet monthly.

- The Metropolitan Planning Organization is finalizing the Tower Terrace Roadway Corridor management Study. A public open house was held October 30th with several hundred people attending. We hope to have the study completed in December with each agency approving the study as a guide to move forward with the planning of this important transportation corridor.

- City staff attended the Iowa Department of Transportation Commission meeting October 9th, in Decorah. The first goal was to thank the Commission for the continued support of the new Tower Terrace Interchange. 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. This is all great news. The second goal was to remind the Commission that the Boyson Road Interchange is also a very important facility in our transportations system. The needed improvements for this interchange have been identified, so the next priority is to place this project on the 5-year Transportation Plan for funding. We think our discussions were very well received by the Commission and hopefully we will see some results of our effort in the near future.

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.