



CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item F
May 9, 2011

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution to Withdraw the Nine Mile Road Pathway (Meadowbrook Road to Haggerty Road) from the Michigan Department of Transportation Enhancement Grant Program.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Department of Public Services, Engineering Division *gmc*

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: *[Signature]*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2008, the City applied for and was awarded a Transportation Enhancement grant for the construction of a 10-foot wide pathway along the north side of Nine Mile Road between Meadowbrook Road and Haggerty Road. (The 10-foot pathway width along with a two foot wide clear zone on each side of the pathway is a requirement of the grant). Funding for the preliminary design of the project was approved in the fiscal year 2010-11 City budget and design commenced in late 2010. The conceptual design was presented for public input at an open house in December 2010 and staff heard several concerns about the width of the pathway, impact of tree removals, winter maintenance for the pathway, and other general concerns about the project. Similar concerns were expressed to City Council by various residents during audience participation at several meetings throughout early 2011.

On April 18, 2011, City Council approved a motion to decrease the width of the pathway width from 10 feet to six feet matching the master planned pathway width for arterial road in the recently adopted Non-Motorized Master Plan. The construction of a pathway having a width of less than 10 feet is not eligible for Transportation Enhancement grant funding. A formal action (such as approval of the attached resolution) to withdraw the grant application and to cancel the grant funding, thereby enabling another applicant to use the funds for an eligible project, is warranted and recommended.

An amendment to the engineering services contract appears elsewhere on this agenda for consideration and would provide additional funding for the consultants to revise the design plans with a six foot wide pathway. While the overall construction cost for the pathway will decrease with a decreased pathway width, the City's project costs will increase with the loss of the grant funding. The attached memo provides additional information regarding construction cost estimates for the revised width.

The project design is anticipated for completion in early summer with construction anticipated to commence late summer 2011.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adoption of a Resolution to Withdraw the Nine Mile Road Pathway (Meadowbrook Road to Haggerty Road) from the Michigan Department of Transportation Enhancement Grant Program.

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Landry				
Mayor Pro Tem Galt				
Council Member Fischer				
Council Member Margolis				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Staudt				
Council Member Wrobel				



CITY OF NOVI

RESOLUTION TO WITHDRAW PROJECT

**TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM
FOR NONMOTORIZED PATHWAY PROJECT:
Nine Mile Road between Meadowbrook and Haggerty Roads**

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor
David B. Landry

Mayor Pro Tem
Bob Gatt

Terry K. Margolis

Andrew Mutch

Dave Staudt

Justin Fischer

Wayne Wrobel

City Manager
Clay J. Pearson

City Clerk
Maryanne Cornelius

WHEREAS, In 2008, the City of Novi applied for and was awarded a Transportation Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$146,220 for the construction of a non-motorized pathway along the north side of Nine Mile Road from Meadowbrook Road to Haggerty Road; and,

WHEREAS, The Michigan Department of Transportation requires, as a condition of the grant award, a minimum pathway width of 10 feet plus a two-foot wide clear zone on each side of the pathway, for a total pathway cross-section of 14 feet wide; and,

WHEREAS, Since 2010, the City of Novi has developed engineering plans, evaluated design alternatives for the pathway, and solicited public input from residents and pathway users; and,

WHEREAS, A number of residents demonstrated concern regarding the required pathway width and the impact on the existing trees and landscapes along the proposed alignment as well as the impact on the adjacent properties; and,

WHEREAS, The Novi City Council has determined that a six-foot wide non-motorized pathway along the proposed alignment would better meet the needs of the community and the character of the Nine Mile corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Novi City Council hereby officially withdraw support for the Transportation Enhancement Grant Application for the Nine Mile Road Pathway (Meadowbrook Road to Haggerty Road) project and formally request that Michigan Department of Transportation cancel the Transportation Enhancement Grant Program funding for said project.

CERTIFICATION

I, Maryanne Cornelius, duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Novi, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi at a Regular meeting held this 9th day of May, 2011.

City of Novi
45175 W. Ten Mile Road
Novi, Michigan 48375
248.347.0460
248.347.0577 fax

cityofnovi.org

Maryanne Cornelius
City Clerk

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

12/29/2008 15:47:24

Page 1 of 2

Conditional Commitment

Project Number: ENH200900002
Applicant: Novi
Project Name: Nonmotorized Pathway: Nine Mile Road from Meadowbrook to Haggerty

TEA Amount Requested: \$146,220.00
Original Match: \$97,480.00
Total Project Cost Requested: \$243,700.00

TEA Amount Recommended Pending Final Reviews and Approvals: \$146,220.00 60.00 %
(Prorated) Applicant / Sponsor Match: \$97,480.00 40.00 %
TEA Recommended + Prorated Match: \$243,700.00

Proposed (Participating) Work:

2011 CONDITIONAL COMMITMENT:

The City of Novi will construct two segments of nonmotorized pathway on Nine Mile Road that will result in providing a continuous nonmotorized pathway between Meadowbrook and Haggerty Road. This project, on the north side of Nine Mile, will provide an alternate means of transportation that will benefit residents and businesses in Novi by connecting a heavily residential area with the nearby Haggerty Road corridor, which is primarily commercial. Also, the pathway will provide access to the I-275 bike path off of Nine Mile Road which will benefit pedestrians and bicyclists alike. Total project cost is \$243,700 with \$146,220 in federal enhancement program funds and \$97,480 in local match from the City of Novi. vhr

FUNDING CONDITION

This project must be designed and constructed in accordance with the standards in the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 1999 edition. The standards include a minimum 10' width with a minimum of 2' clear zone on both sides, for trails. Also, any bridges or boardwalks will have a minimum 14' width between rub rails.

FUNDING CONDITION:

Transportation Enhancement funding is conditional upon the items mentioned in the letter from our office conveying the conditional commitment, supporting documentation, as well as Congress' reauthorization of Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) continuing TE program funding. SAFETEA-LU legislation is set to expire at the end of fiscal year 2009 (September 30, 2009).

Total Non-Participating Amount (Not Recommended) : \$0.00



TO: CLAY PEARSON, CITY MANAGER
FROM: ROB HAYES, P.E., DPS DIRECTOR/C
BRIAN COBURN, P.E., ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: NINE MILE PATHWAY ALTERNATIVES
DATE: APRIL 14, 2011

4/14/2011

To: Mayor and City Council members

Background for your use given the discussions, easement on the 4/18 agenda, and the Mayor & Council issue that's been added. Alternatives provide less paved visual impact and decrease snow/ice control. They also give us some, but not complete, flexibility in bending and tweaking the alignment in the field. However, the roughly 28 trees 6" or more in diameter (plus roughly 85 6" or less) along the mile stretch will still likely be impacted. Again, no fences impacted before or after any modifications. All staying within City ROW and acquired highway and sidewalk easement. Source of funds on the original project is Municipal Street Fund.
Clay

As requested, Engineering has developed alternatives to the proposed 10-foot wide pathway currently planned for the north side of Nine Mile Road east of Meadowbrook Road. Possible alternatives include an 8-foot wide multi-use pathway or a 6-foot wide pedestrian sidewalk. We have assumed that the same alignment would be used as proposed for the 10-foot wide pathway.

An 8-foot wide multi-use pathway would allow safe use by bicyclists, people in wheelchairs and pedestrians; and would be consistent with the City of Novi Code of Ordinance's design and construction standards for a multi-use pathway. A 6-foot wide pedestrian sidewalk would be consistent with the Non-Motorized Master Plan's minimum width for sidewalks along a major arterial road and could safely accommodate pedestrians; however, it may not be wide enough to handle 2-way traffic with different types of users.

There are advantages and disadvantages to constructing a narrower path. Advantages include:

- Lower construction material and labor costs (although the City's overall project cost would be higher if the grant is abandoned, as presented in the table below).
- Less area for residents to maintain in winter.
- More flexibility to meander the pathway to potentially to reduce the number of tree removals (we currently estimated that only 5-6 trees would be saved if a narrower path were constructed along the proposed alignment).

Disadvantages of a narrower pathway include:

- Less maneuver room for pathway users.
- Would not conform to the spirit of a *Complete Streets* policy.
- Bicycle use would likely be lower than it would be on a wider pathway meaning that many bicyclists would continue to use Nine Mile Road.

Engineering staff prepared budgetary cost estimates for both an 8-foot wide and 6-foot wide pathway and compared them to the consulting engineer's estimate for the 10-foot wide pathway originally proposed. Please note that each estimate assumes using the current alignment; in other words, we did not attempt to develop a cost estimate for an

alignment closer to the road because it would require significant ditch enclosure work at a much higher cost, and design costs would increase by up to \$18,000 if the alignment were to be changed. A summary of cost estimates is presented in the following table:

Summary of Estimated Project Costs by Pathway Width

	Pathway Width		
	10'	8'	6'
Additional Design Costs	\$0	\$7,000*	\$7,000*
Estimated Construction Costs	\$294,693	\$241,437	\$225,000
Estimated CE Costs	\$34,530	\$31,068	\$30,000
Estimated Project Costs	\$329,223	\$279,505	\$262,000
Grant Funds to Offset Project Costs	\$(146,220)	\$0	\$0
Net Cost to City	\$183,003	\$279,505	\$262,000
Difference from 10' Option	--	\$96,502	\$78,996

*Costs for design would increase up to \$18,000 if the alignment is reviewed and changed.

Please contact us if you have any questions, comments or concerns in regard to this evaluation of possible alternatives for the Nine Mile Pathway project.

cc: Kathy Smith-Roy, Finance Director
 Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager

MAP INTERPRETATION NOTICE

Map information depicted is not intended to replace or substitute for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet National Map Accuracy Standards and use the most recent, accurate sources available to the people of the City of Novi. Boundary measurements and area calculations are approximate and should not be construed as survey measurements performed by a licensed Michigan Surveyor as defined in Michigan Public Act 132 of 1970 as amended. Please contact the City GIS Manager to confirm source and accuracy information related to this map.

City Of Novi



NINE MILE ROAD PATHWAY PROJECT Meadowbrook Road to Haggerty Road

