



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

Public Works Committee Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: November 4, 2019

Prepared By: Jon Oliphant, AICP, Planning & Development Director

Agenda Item: Freedom Parkway Engineering Consideration

Explanation: It is estimated that about 65% of the engineering for the eventual construction of the remainder of Freedom Parkway is complete. The FY 19-20 budget includes \$165,000 for the completion of both the Freedom engineering as well as that for Lakeshore Drive. Staff has seen increased interest from businesses in locating along the Freedom corridor and the first project on the east end of it (M4 Steel) started construction this summer.

The City has applied previously for Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STU) funding through the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. A call for projects for the next FY 23-24 STU funding cycle is anticipated soon and staff would recommend applying again for both Freedom and Lakeshore. The latest estimate is that \$2.68 million will be available for each of those funding years for reconstruction/new construction projects. However, with the uncertainty of being able to depend on funding through STU, a state capital bill, or other sources, consideration should be given to at least moving forward with the completion of engineering for Freedom. This would make the project completely shovel ready, as water and sewer have previously been installed and the right-of-way has been dedicated.

It would also allow for Freedom to be constructed in phases, which would keep some flexibility for the potential for outside funding assistance and not utilize all of a planned local match given a typical 70/30 (federal/local) funding scenario through STU. Staff has previously estimated that the total cost of the completion of Freedom and the first phase of Lakeshore to near the north property line of Big R would be about \$3.5 million and \$1 million is included in the FY 19-20 budget for the construction as a local grant match.

Fiscal Impact: It is estimated that the completion of the Freedom engineering would be about \$50,000. Payment of that would be through the Freedom/Lakeshore Capital Projects Fund.

Action Requested: Staff requests a recommendation to proceed with a Request for Qualifications Process to select an engineering firm to complete the work.