

CITY OF IOWA CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

August 6, 2024

Resolution Declaring the City of Iowa City's Application for Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) Funds for Traffic Control Devices on North Dodge Street (Highway 1) and ACT Circle.

Prepared By:	Sarah Walz, Associate Transportation Planner
Reviewed By:	Kent Ralston, Transportation Planner Tracy Hightshoe, Director of Neighborhood and Development Services Jason Havel, City Engineer
Fiscal Impact:	None.
Staff Recommendation:	Approval
Commission Recommendations:	N/A
Attachments: Resolution	

Executive Summary:

The City's adopted Capital Improvement Plan, 2024-2028, includes a project to install traffic signals for motorists and pedestrians at the North Dodge Street / ACT Circle Intersection (Project #S3982). The project will address existing traffic concerns that will likely be exacerbated by future redevelopment of the ACT property. The current total estimated cost of the project is \$832,000.

The TSIP grant is a well-funded program intended to reduce traffic collisions and improve safety on Iowa's roadways. This same funding source has been used for several recent projects in Iowa City, including the 4- to 3- lane conversions of Mormon Trek Boulevard and 1st Avenue.

A resolution approved by the City Council is a required element of the application.

Background / Analysis:

A 2021 analysis determined that the intersection of North Dodge Street and ACT Circle meets 4 of 5 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) warrants for a traffic signal based on vehicle volumes alone. The intersection is also located on the crest of a hill and, due to the topography, visibility is limited. This creates a safety concern, particularly for left-turning vehicles, which could be addressed by signalizing the intersection. In addition, the recent change in ownership of the ACT property will bring new employment and development opportunities to this segment of the North Dodge Street corridor. This potentially includes reestablishing a 4th leg of the intersection to the ACT property and furthering the need for a traffic signal.

The North Dodge Street / ACT Circle Intersection Improvements Project has a current total estimated cost of \$832,000. The City may apply for up to \$500,000 for the signalization project with no required minimum match.