



MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: June 9, 2015

REGULAR

ITEM #12

AGENDA ITEM: Cooperative Agreement with Washington County for Downtown Street and Utility Project

SUBMITTED BY: Nick M. Johnson, City Planner

THROUGH: Dean Zuleger, City Administrator

REVIEWED BY: Dean Zuleger, City Administrator

SUGGESTED ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- Introduction of ItemCommunity Development Director
- Report/Presentation.....Community Development Director
- Questions from Council to Staff Mayor Facilitates
- Call for Motion Mayor & City Council
- Discussion Mayor & City Council
- Action on Motion..... Mayor Facilitates

POLICY RECCOMENDER: Staff

FISCAL IMPACT: TBD – Staff is negotiating a financing plan with Washington County to pay for the public improvements associated with the Downtown Street and Utility Project.

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTED: City Staff will provide an update regarding the ongoing negotiations of the Cooperative Agreement with Washington County. The Cooperative Agreement is intended to solidify a financing plan for the Downtown Street and Utility Project, as well as clarify cost splits between the City and the County on various public improvements associated with the project. Negotiations on this agreement are ongoing between the City Administrator and Washington County. No specific action is requested at the time of publication of this report.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY/STAFF REPORT: The City of Lake Elmo and Washington County have been working collaboratively on a downtown street and utility project since January of 2014. The proposed project is intended to install sanitary sewer, storm sewer, regional storm water improvements, replace old watermain, and reconstruct streets in the Downtown Village

Area. The proposed project has been broken up into two phases. The Preliminary Design Process has recently been completed for both phases, with the City approving Municipal Consent for Preliminary Design on both phases. The street segments included in the project are the following: Phase I - Laverne Avenue, 36th Street and Upper 33rd Street, and Phase II – Lake Elmo Avenue and 30th Street. This project will construct the trunk sewer infrastructure needed to serve the Village Area. Construction for Phase I is anticipated to begin in July of 2015, while Phase II is anticipated to be constructed in 2016.

As the project is a joint project between the City of Lake Elmo and Washington County, an agreement is needed to formally adopt a financing plan and cost-share for the proposed improvements. Washington County is willing to manage and finance the construction project, and the City would be expected to pay for its share of the improvements incrementally. The City Administrator is currently negotiating the terms of the agreement. An update will be provided to outline the important components of the agreement at the City Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

No formal action is requested at the time of publication of this staff report. Staff will present a status update regarding the cooperative agreement at the City Council meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: *None*