



April 26, 2020

Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council  
City of Warrensburg, Missouri

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

**SUBJECT:** An ordinance authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc for grant funding services

**BACKGROUND:**

The Maguire Street corridor and Maguire Street/50 interchange have been areas of concerns for the community for several years. Studies have been conducted to assess existing traffic conditions on Maguire Street corridor. The Maguire Street Phase 1A study (2016) recommended replacing the existing bridge with a diverging diamond. However, a funding source to make the recommended improvements was not identified at the time.

In 2017, voters approved the issuance of general obligation bonds paid for with a property tax to construct Veterans Road and traffic signal upgrades. The idea behind moving forward with the traffic signal upgrades was to see if it would relieve the congestion on Maguire. However, while there has been some improvement to traffic flow on Maguire with the signal upgrades, actual relief on Maguire cannot be realized until the capacity of the corridor is increased. City Council continued its discussion of finding a funding source for the Maguire Street/50 interchange including issuing more general obligation bonds when the original measure passed in 2017 expired. Authorization for these bonds would allow the city to be considered for federal grants that require a local government match of 40-60%. City Council passed an ordinance in January 2021 calling for an election on April 6, 2021 to authorize \$17 million in general obligation bonds for street and road improvements. The initiative passed with nearly 79% approval.

The original notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for the FY 2021 BUILD grant was issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation on January 20, 2021 with a deadline of April 20, 2021. Staff was prepared to wait until the following year to apply for the BUILD grant due to the short time frame between having the election results and the application deadline. However, that NOFO was rescinded shortly after it was issued. A new NOFO was on April 13, 2021 for the FY 2021 Rebuilding America's Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. The new deadline for application is July 12, 2021.

**ISSUE:**

Projects for RAISE funding will be evaluated on safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, innovation, and partnership. Projects that improve racial equity, reduce climate change impact, and create good-paying jobs will be prioritized. This is a very competitive grant application process, but funding will be awarded equally between rural and urban areas.



Staff recommends using HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) to assist in writing this grant application. HDR was selected in 2015 to provide preliminary studies and plans for Maguire Street Phase 1A and has access to data already gathered. Additionally, HDR is experienced and successful in writing grant applications for similar projects.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Focus I: Invest in Infrastructure

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This agreement for grant funding services totals \$62,729. The FY 2021 budget does not include an allocation for grant funding services. However, staff recommends moving forward in the FY 2021 RAISE grant application process. Proceeds remaining from the 2017 G.O. bond issuance will be used to pay for these services.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Passage of the ordinance.

Sincerely,

Danielle Dulin  
Interim City Manager

Attachment: Ordinance  
Grant funding scope of services