



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

ACM: Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

DATE: August 4, 2022

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Interstate 35 (I-35) design.

BACKGROUND

The proposed designs for artistic enhancement at various Interstate 35E (I-35E) intersections were reviewed by the Public Art Committee (PAC) in previous meetings. However, the reviewed enhancements consisted of large medallions, and the City was notified the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has moved away from medallion designs due to engineering issues caused by additional weight on the walls. Based on this information, imprinted options were discussed, and PAC asked if the designs could incorporate a music theme. The Parks and Recreation Department engaged the engineering firm, Kimley Horn to produce music-based designs that can be imprinted into the walls.

Locations for the designs include the following intersections:

- Entry monument at Milam Road (underpass)
- Loop 288 (underpass)
- U.S. 380 (overpass) and (baseline / accent Intersection)
- W. Oak Street (overpass/baseline intersection)
- I-35E and Interstate 35W at Bonnie Brae Street (baseline/ accent intersection)

The first draft of the designs was presented to the PAC on April 7, 2022. At that time the committee noted that some of the designs needed to be simplified.

The second draft of the designs was presented to the PAC on June 2, 2022. Feedback from the PAC included:

- Some designs are too detailed,
- Not to use two treble clefs on the same line,
- Do not use backward musical notes,
- Use a score to music that represents Denton,
- Focus should be on the music notes rather than sound waves,
- Consider only having a few detailed intersections and keeping the rest less busy,
- Pay attention to notes and their meanings, and
- Consider messages relevant to Denton.

The Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board reviewed the designs in their July 11, 2022, meeting. One member of the Board wanted to make sure the musician outlines fully represented the contributions of women and minorities to Denton's music culture.

Staff provided feedback to the designers and revised designs have been put forward for review (Exhibit 2).

RECOMMENDATION

Parks and Recreation request a review of the proposed designs and direction so staff can move forward with the proposed designs and costs to City Council.

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE OF PROJECT

Let date for the project is September 2023.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

N/A

FISCAL INFORMATION

TxDOT bears the cost for their original form liner design and the City of Denton will absorb the cost for the additional imprinted designs, additional lighting, or other additions to include ongoing maintenance and repair. Preliminary project costs are estimated in Exhibit 2, and construction is currently unfunded. Costs to the city will be determined by what additional expenses are incurred by TxDOT by the services desired above baseline costs. This difference will be the costs expected to be covered by the City of Denton. Construction on the highway improvements is anticipated to begin in 2024.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1- Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2- Presentation Board MSE Wall Concepts

Respectfully submitted:

Gary Packan, Director, Parks and Recreation

Prepared by:

John Whitmore, Park Planning Manager, Parks and Recreation