



MEMO

TO: President Gardiner and Members of Council

FROM: Town Manager

SUBJECT: DOT RAISE Grant – Change Order

DATE: June 6, 2022

Background

Congressman Mrvan's office recently issued a notice of funding availability for \$1.5 billion in Department of Transportation (DOT) grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program.

From the DOT guidance on this grant:

"RAISE projects are rigorously reviewed and selected based on merit. Projects will be evaluated on statutory criteria of safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness and opportunity, state of good repair, partnership and innovation. New this year, under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, 2022 RAISE applications will also be evaluated on the criteria of mobility and community connectivity. The Department will assess projects for universal design and accessibility for travelers, as well as consider how proposals increase mobility for freight and supply chain efficiency."

The Ridge and Calumet Streetscape Plan is a prime candidate for funding, as we will be mitigating stormwater and making intentional multi-modal connections through our community utilizing the transit being constructed by NICTD.

The deadline for applications was April 14th. This was a very short runway. The complexity of the application is similar in scope and depth as the TIGER grants of old.

To meet the deadline and submit a competitive application, at your February 21 meeting Council allowed staff to engage Sam Schwartz Engineering to assist us in our application.

The projected engagement cost with Sam Schwartz Engineering was not to exceed \$10,000 and be paid through the LIT Economic Development Fund.

Methodology

The Town successfully submitted its grant application for \$21 million on April 14th. In the course of assisting the Town, Sam Schwartz expended \$10,891.23.

Because the initial award was not to exceed \$10,000, Council must approve the additional expenditure of the \$891.23. The additional funds will be paid out of the LIT Economic Development Fund.

Recommendation

By motion and voice vote, approve the addition expense of \$891.23 payable to Sam Schwartz Engineering .