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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## MEMORANDUM

Planning,  
Zoning,  
Building Safety,  
Construction Inspection Services,  
Public Health,  
Housing Inspections,  
Code Enforcement

**To:** Mayor and City Council Members

**Cc:** Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator  
Randy Hill, Director of Public Works  
Steven Boka, Director of Community Development  
Jon Lutz, Muscatine City Engineer

**From:** Jim Rudisill, Planning/CD Coordinator

**Date:** February 6, 2013

**Re:** **Cedar Street Reconstruction – Phase II (Utility) Easements/ROW (#3 - Rev)**

**INTRODUCTION:** The City of Muscatine began a three-phase reconstruction of Cedar Street from Parham Street to Houser Street in 2011. The various phases included the extensions of the Papoose Creek culvert under Cedar Street at its intersection with Wood Creek Lane and an extension near the Stonebrook Drive/Cedar Street intersection; utility upgrading and replacement; construction of passing lanes; bicycle/pedestrian walkway construction on the north side of Cedar Street and other work. Temporary and permanent easements and right-of-way acquisitions will be needed for the work. Iowa DOT procedures will be followed in this process.

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Muscatine has traditionally used the following formula when determining easement values for city projects. The assessed value and size of lot for each parcel for which an easement is sought is obtained from the Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium (MAGIC) website. Comparable sales are also examined. From that information a value per square foot is calculated for each parcel. The size of the easement need is determined by survey and the easement size is then multiplied by the square foot value. If the easement to be acquired is temporary, the initial square foot value is then multiplied by 0.2 (20%). If the easement is to be permanent, the square foot value is multiplied by 0.4 (40%). Where rights-of-way are needed, the full assessed value is used, or a per-acre value comparable to the current average value of farmland in Muscatine is used. If necessary, the value for special features, such as landscaping or riparian woodland, is also included in the overall value.

This process was followed in establishing the easement value for previous acquisitions acquired under Phase I of the project. Using the same process, the values for property owners involved in Phase II (Utility) were determined. Previously, several of the property owners accepted their offers and the council approved those easements and rights of way. Unity Healthcare (now known as Trinity Muscatine) and Muscatine Family Y have agreed to donate the easements. The Y wishes to quit claim the area. The Community Nursing Foundation has authorized the transfer, but did not discuss any donation, so a claim for \$46.34 will be included in the bill list at the next council meeting. The values set for those easements/ROW are shown on the accompanying table.

**RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:**

It is recommended the easements and other acquisitions shown in the table and the values established for these acquisitions be considered by the council, accepted and approved.

**BACKUP INFORMATION:**

1. Value Table

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT EASEMENTS FOR CEDAR STREET  
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – PHASE II**

**WHEREAS**, the City is undertaking a project to upgrade and improve a portion of Cedar Street from Houser Street to Parham Street; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the City to obtain permanent and temporary easements and other right-of-way acquisitions from certain property owners along Cedar Street and adjoining streets to complete Phase II of this project; and

**WHEREAS**, each property owner has agreed to separate conditions for each of their easements;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA** that the attached list of acquisitions from the property owners be accepted by the City under the conditions and for the considerations described in each acquisition document.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2013.

**BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA**

Attest:

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DeWayne M. Hopkins, Mayor

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Gregg Mandsager, City Clerk

**UNITY HEALTHCARE/COMMUNITY NURSING FOUNDATION - 2012 UTILITIES PHASE  
CEDAR STREET RECONSTRUCTION - REVISED (FEB. 1, 2013)**