City of Missoula, Montana
Item to be Referred to City Council Committee

Committee: Public Works

Item: Higgins Ave. Bridge Rehab Project—Hip Strip Plaza & West Stair Feasibility Studies—Informational Update

Date: September 6, 2019

Sponsor(s): Jeremy Keene

Prepared by: Lori Hart

Ward(s) Affected:
- ☒ Ward 1
- ☐ Ward 2
- ☒ Ward 3
- ☐ Ward 4
- ☐ Ward 5
- ☒ Ward 6
- ☐ All Wards
- ☐ N/A

Action Required:
No action required—informational only.

Recommended Motion(s):
No motion—informational only.

Timeline:
Referral to committee: September 16, 2019
Committee discussion: September 18, 2019
Council action (or sets hearing): N/A
Public Hearing: N/A
Deadline: N/A

Background and Alternatives Explored:
On July 29, 2019, City entered into a Construction Funding Agreement with the Montana Department of Transportation to contribute $1.7 million of Transportation Impact Fees toward construction of the Higgins Ave. Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

On August 12, 2019, City Council approved a contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. to perform feasibility studies for potential changes to the plans and design as follows:
1. Modify the 3rd Street (Hip Strip) Plaza.
2. Modify and relocate the existing west stair on the Higgins Ave. Bridge that connects to Caras Park.

HDR has completed the feasibility studies, which are included with this referral, and staff recommends proceeding with the proposed design modifications.

Financial Implications:
Based on the cost estimates included in the feasibility studies, no changes to the Construction Funding Agreement would be required.