City of **JOPLIN** City Council Agenda Item

Requested Council Meeting Date: June 17, 2013

Item: COUNCIL BILL NO. 2013-205
Originating Department: PUBLIC WORKS - ENGINEERING

Attachments: 1) Location Map
2) Agreement
3) Council Bill

Engineering: Jack Schaller	Date:
Department Head: David Hertzberg	Date:
Finance Department: Leslie Haase	Date:
City Attorney: Brian Head	Date:
City Manager: Mark Rohr	Date:

Recommended Action: Authorization to enter into an Agreement with Great River Associates for design services for the MSSU Trail Project on an emergency basis.

Background: Currently two routes are being used for non-motorized pedestrian traffic to and from Missouri Southern State University and the North Park Mall. This trail would eliminate pedestrians using the shoulder of MO Highway 71 as a sidewalk/trail. The shoulder and the roadway is only divided by roadway striping and poses a possible safety issue with pedestrians and bicyclists getting hit by oncoming vehicular traffic. The other pathway being used passes across an unimproved field and through a creek. The bridge is planned to be placed where there is now a slippery stream bed to walk across. The new trail will be built to ADA standard and take a completely different route than the motoring public. Additionally, it is anticipated that the trail will take less travel time to commute to and from MSSU and the North Park Mall than by traveling by car. This will encourage a reduction in traffic on Range Line Road that is already beyond capacity. Though it would not directly tie to another existing trail system, when this section is completed, there would only be one remaining section of trail needed to complete a system that would connect the North Park Mall and MSSU to Joplin's downtown district.

Discussion: The consultant shall be responsible for working with the City to determine the appropriate design parameters and construction specifications based on specific site conditions. The consultant fees are not to exceed $34,417.76, which is within engineering estimate. The project consists of a pedestrian bridge to span the stream that is estimated to be 200 feet in length. The total length of the trail is approximately 1,800 feet plus the 200 feet for the bridge. The total project cost is approximately $345,664.00 and the federal share of Transportation Enhancement funding is for federal funding of approximately $272,732.00 leaving approximately $72,932.00 as non-federal matching funds. Council passed the Transportation Enhancement Fund Agreement with MoDOT for this project on March 4, 2013.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of this agreement.