



Engineering Department

DATE: May 28, 2024

FROM: Gabe Schell, City Engineer

ITEM: Half Cent Sales Tax Update & Tyler Parkway Extension

REQUEST:

Consider request to receive update on half cent sales tax and assign Tyler Parkway Extension as the next half-cent sales tax funded project and begin preliminary engineering.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Tyler Parkway from Valley Dr to Cogburn Rd is recommended to be the next half-cent sales tax-funded arterial road reconstruction project. Half-cent sales tax has been used in part or entirely for:

- 2020 construction of 43rd Avenue NE from Washington Street to State Street
- 2022 construction of 43rd Avenue NE from State Street to N 26th Street
- 2022 construction of Tyler Parkway from Cogburn Drive to 57th Avenue NW
- 2022 construction of 43rd Avenue NE from Roosevelt Drive to 52nd Street NE
- 2023 construction of Ash Coulee Dr from Tyler Parkway to N Washington Street
- 2023 construction of US 83/64th Avenue NE intersection improvements
- 2024 construction of S Washington Street from Burleigh Avenue to the south Bismarck drainage ditch
- 2025 planned construction of E Century Avenue from Centennial Rd to 52nd Street

The project would construct approximately 3000 feet of Tyler Parkway between Valley Dr and Cogburn Rd. Currently, Tyler Parkway extends approximately one mile south of Valley Dr connecting to I-94 at Exit 157 before transitioning into Divide Avenue. To the north, it extends approximately two miles beyond Cogburn Rd, intersecting with ND 1804 and continuing as 15th Street NW, with approximately a mile of paved roadway followed by approximately nine miles of gravel road. This proposed extension would cross Tyler Coulee and would integrate with regional stormwater detention improvements currently in design within the coulee. No municipal water or sewer is anticipated to be extended across Tyler Coulee.

This project has been recommended in numerous planning studies. The earliest mention of this corridor was the 1996 Long Range Transportation Plan showing a potential connection of a north-south roadway between Country West Rd and ND 1804. It continued to be further

analyzed and recommended in the 2003 Fringe Area Road Master Plan, 2011 NW Bismarck Subarea Study and 2014 Fringe Area Road Master Plan. It has been included as a "future arterial" in functional classification maps with right of way dedicated during adjacent platting actions from the mid-1990s to present along the corridor.

This project would improve connectivity in NW Bismarck and allow residents another option for their trip selection. This improved connectivity also decreases Fire Department and other emergency services response times through a more direct connection to areas of Promontory Pointe, Elk Ridge, Eagle Crest and Heritage Park and Heritage Ridge Additions. This project would seek to mitigate increases in traffic by evaluating and deploying traffic calming, traffic operation and traffic safety improvements both within the extension area and also as far south as Century Ave and as far north as Ash Coulee Dr. Additionally, the project will assess opportunities for pedestrian and bicycle enhancements along Tyler Parkway and connectivity to the trail network within the coulee.

This project would be 100% locally funded with no programmed federal or state funding. As such, some of the processes required by federal funding would not need to be performed. However, this roadway is a functionally classified roadway and in order to not jeopardize future federal funding eligibility, coordination with North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) will occur to the degree the NDDOT desires. Right of way would need to be acquired from two primary landowners through the extension area and easements or right of way may be necessary from properties adjacent to existing Tyler Parkway depending on the scope and scale of the traffic calming improvements considered.

If it is desired by this Board, staff would issue a request for proposals (RFP) from qualified consulting engineering firms to assist with the preliminary engineering phase with the ability to amend the agreement to include design engineering and construction observation services if approved. Construction would be planned for the 2026 construction season and this project would be included in the upcoming 2025 budget.

RECOMMENDED CITY COMMISSION ACTION:

Approve request to assign Tyler Parkway Extension as the next half-cent sales tax-funded project and procure engineering services

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION:

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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Location Map

Location Map – Tyler Parkway Extension

