

council memo

June 22, 2017

TO: Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager, Mayor, and City Council
CC:
FROM: Dan Whitlow, P. E., City Engineer
RE: Alburnett Road Extension Project History

The following is a brief summary of highlights associated with the Alburnett Road Extension Project extensive public process. As the reader surely is aware many, many conversations are also provided in one-on-one situations with individuals, and also with small groups, that are not included in this update. Please also be aware that all contract agreements, consultant payments, and committee meetings are included in publicly posted agendas and minutes and approved by City Council.

Contract for engineering services with Anderson-Bogert – April 20, 2000 (Resolution 14285)

Contract directed the consultant to study the need and feasibility of the street extension and provide several alternatives.

Contract scope of services also included both “Regional and Local Traffic Analyses”.

Citizen’s Advisory Committee was formed and performed alignment evaluation with Anderson-Bogert Engineers

Committee was established at a Council Meeting on May 4, 2000.

Committee Members (13) appointed by Mayor (May 18, 2000) included:

- Terry Cooper – Resident
- Jim McDonald – Resident
- John Schlotterback – Resident
- Gloria Cowguill – Resident
- Joan Oeltjen – Resident
- Allison Kaut– Resident
- Tom Bausch – Resident
- Chuck Kent - Resident
- Mary Ames - Marin Ind. Representative
- Frank Bellon - Skogman
- Ed Begley – Parks Board
- Maryann Schinrock – Engineering Dept
- Jeffrey Morrow – Anderson-Bogert

The committee discussed 4 different alternatives.

1225 6th Avenue, Suite 200
Marion, Iowa 52302
www.cityofmarion.org

Alternate #3 - Alburnett Road south to 2nd Street / 7th Avenue intersection was the selected preference of seven of those members listed above. Each filled out an alignment selection sheet.

Alternative alignments that were considered:

- Alburnett Rd extension to Parkview Drive
- Alburnett Rd extension to Donnelly Park Entrance
- Alburnett Rd extension to 2nd Street/7th Ave
- No Alburnett Rd extension – expand existing street system

Committee Meeting Dates:

- May 24, 2000
- June 20, 2000
- July 18, 2000

Partial Payments made to Anderson-Bogert for Feasibility Study

- PP 1) June 15, 2000 – Resolution No 14366 (\$3,638.79)
- PP 2) July 20, 2000 – Resolution No 14401 (\$4,489.05)
- PP 3) August 17, 2000 – Resolution No 14450 (\$2,755.16)
- PP 4) September 21, 2000 – Resolution No 14505 (\$1,000.00)

Alburnett Road Extension Feasibility Study – Final Report (August 18, 2000)

Anderson-Bogert presented the Final Report at Work Session on September 5, 2000 including the following:

- Project goals including reduction of traffic on 6th Avenue, accommodation of future growth, use of a citizen advisory group, various alternatives and the number of properties that would require acquisition.
- The need for traffic signals at 7th and 8th Avenues where the alignments cross.
- The project timeline included possible commencement of construction in 5 to 10 years.
- Mayor Klopfenstein asked about having a public informational meeting.

The Final Report was received and filed by Council (September 7, 2000).

Council Work Session (September 19, 2000)

Council discussed Public Information Meeting dates

- Public information meeting was to be published in the newspaper and added to the City Website

Council comments included that it is more important to have another north/south road versus an east/west road (widen Central Ave instead).

Alburnett Road Extension Feasibility Study - Public Informational Meetings

City held a Public Informational Meeting on Thursday, October 26, 2000 at the Public Library.

1225 6th Avenue, Suite 200
Marion, Iowa 52302
www.cityofmarion.org

The Meeting included two sessions with a formal presentation at each, explaining the study process and evaluation of the alignment alternatives.

Approximately 75 people attended both sessions.

Citizens turned in written comments regarding the different Alternatives. Most preferred Alternative #3 (Alburnett Rd extension to 2nd Street/7th Ave).

Written comments were received and filed by Council at a later meeting.

Council Meeting (December 21, 2000)

Set public hearing regarding the Alburnett Road Extension Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Council Work Session (January 18, 2001)

Held public hearing regarding amending the Future Land Map and Transportation Map of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment and the Major Street Ordinance regarding the Alburnett Road Extension.

Report was presented that Anderson-Bogert considered three alignments as well as adding two lanes to the current Alburnett Road for the proposed extension. Their study was based on traffic projections for the year 2020. Those projections indicated that 2 additional lanes on the current Alburnett Road would be needed by 2020 if nothing was done.

Report indicated that Alternative #3 was ranked as the best option by the committee and public. Alternative #3 requires the shortest bridge structure, greatest relief of traffic from 8th Avenue and long term need at the 10 Street/Central Ave and 10th Avenue intersection. This option does require the buyout of 3 properties.

Report also indicated that with Alternative #3 the proposed intersection with 7th Avenue would require removal of the bridge over 7th Avenue so additional turn lanes on 7th Avenue can be added.

Presentation again included that construction would not take place for 10-15 years.

The purpose for the study and discussion now is to reserve the corridor before development occurs.

Alternatives:

- Alburnett Rd extension to Parkview Drive
- Alburnett Rd extension to Donnelly Park Entrance
- Alburnett Rd extension to 2nd Street/7th Ave
- No Alburnett Rd extension – expand existing street system

Council Meeting (February 15, 2001)

Ordinance No 01-02 - Amended the Future Land Use Map and Transportation Map of the Comprehensive Plan and Major Street Ordinance regarding the Alburnett Road Extension.

Ordinance No. 01-02 specified Alternative #3 (Alburnett Rd extension to 2nd Street/7th Ave)

2001 Alburnett Road Bridge Reconstruction Project

Project decision was made to limit width to only include 2 lanes of traffic during bridge design.

1225 6th Avenue, Suite 200
Marion, Iowa 52302
www.cityofmarion.org

2011 Additional network traffic studies were performed in association with the Central Corridor Master Plan Traffic Study.

Study included the interaction of the Alburnett Road Extension, the proposed Central Corridor and the existing 10th Street network.

2012 Bowman Meadows Addition Preliminary/Final Plats

Council reviewed and approved developer agreements to include pavement over-width/over-depth, trails, and decorative street lights to accommodate Alburnett Road Extension.

2013 approved LOST Draft Spending Plan (2015-16) including \$1,300,000.00 for Alburnett Road Extension Project.

2014 Planning staff presented their recommendation to rename the existing Alburnett Road in anticipation of construction of the Alburnett Road Extension Project.

Staff notified adjacent owners regarding the potential address change. Council was well attended and covered by Marion Times.

2017 adopted FY 17 Budget – including \$1,300,000.00 for Alburnett Road Extension Project.

2017 adopted 5 Year Capital Improvement Program to include an additional \$1,000,000 (FY 18) for Alburnett Road Extension Project.

During CIP Development Meetings Council reallocated funding to the Project.

Council Meeting (March 17, 2016)

Council directed staff to solicit engineering services for the 2016 Alburnett Road Extension Project – Concept Study

Council Meeting (June 23, 2016)

Approved contract with Snyder & Associates for 2016 Alburnett Rd Extension Project – Concept Study (\$248,950.00)

Snyder & Associates payments – Concept Study

PP 1) September 22, 2016 – Resolution No 25581 (\$18,667.45)
PP 2) October 20, 2016 – Resolution No 25625 (\$44,413.19)
PP 3) November 17, 2016 – Resolution No 25688 (\$65,412.66)
PP 4) January 12, 2017 – Resolution No 25763 (\$12,344.81)
PP 5) January 12, 2017 – Resolution No 25764 (\$12,947.69)
PP 6) March 23, 2017 – Resolution No 25880 (\$13,834.62)
PP 7) April 20, 2017 – Resolution No 52945 (\$23,330.25)

Parks Board Meeting (April 12, 2017)

Staff and consultant provided overview of project with the focus regarding impacts to Willow Park.



1225 6th Avenue, Suite 200
Marion, Iowa 52302
www.cityofmarion.org

Water Board Meeting (May 9, 2017)

Staff and consultant provided overview of project with the focus regarding impacts to the Water Department properties.

Council Meeting (March 23, 2017)

Council directed staff to investigate the demolition of the former 7th Avenue Railroad Bridge.

Council Meeting (May 19, 2017)

Council directed staff to proceed with the demolition of the 7th Avenue Railroad Bridge.

Concept Study – Public Open House (May 23, 2017)

Postcards were sent to 93 properties
Approximately 30-40 persons attended.
Marion Times provided extensive coverage.

Engineering Department Newsletter

Staff has included the Alburnett Road Extension Project in several Newsletters to the Public and in the City Newsletter.