



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
Finance and Personnel Committee Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: May 17, 2021

Prepared By: Jon Oliphant, AICP, Planning & Development Director

Agenda Item: Square Lighting Upgrades

Explanation: Staff recently received a request from a couple of the Square business owners about increasing the lighting within the interior park to improve both the night security and the aesthetics. The weekly Rove + Ramble events will begin on June 3 and additional lighting is sought in coordination with that.

Staff and our electrical inspector, Ty Slonneger of RNS Electric, met with the business owners to discuss the possible options to improve the lighting. The desire is to have string lights be placed above all four of the walkways. In order to accommodate that, 25' high telescoping poles would be needed near each of the entrances. Concrete bases should be poured for each to ensure greater stability. Lights could then be strung to connect with existing light poles near the fountain. Each of those light poles have outlets that could provide the necessary electrical source. While the intention is for only clear lights to be used for Rove + Ramble, our electrical inspector provided amongst his cost estimate the price for color-changing lights that can be controlled remotely. This would allow for the color to match the particular occasion in a similar fashion to the lights recently installed on the Murray Baker Bridge crossing the Illinois River.

It is anticipated that the annual Square holiday lighting would continue to utilize the flag pole holders on the inside of the concrete coping wall. Those lights are typically placed near Thanksgiving and are removed by early January. The new lights would be intended to be in place from early June and be removed by late October. Attached is an approximate representation of the poles and lights as seen from the east side of the park. The poles would allow for a banner to be placed between them and above the walkways, if desired.

Fiscal Impact: The payment for this would come from the TIF Fund. The rough estimate from RNS is as follows:

- Eight sets of weatherproof/shatterproof color-changing string lights with remote control operation: \$425
- Eight 25' heavy-duty black aluminum telescoping flag poles: \$725
- Concrete bases labor: \$2,200
- Lighting labor: \$1,500
- **TOTAL: \$4,850**

Action Requested: This is offered as background at the May 17 Finance and Personnel Committee meeting in case there is any feedback before the planned purchase of the lighting upgrades.



SIGN?