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NEWS RELEASE

April 4, 2014 – For Immediate Release

Public Information Meeting on Potential Railroad Overpass/Bridge Projects

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque Engineering Department will hold a public information meeting on two proposed railroad overpass projects in downtown Dubuque under consideration as part of the City’s long-range transportation plan.

The public is encouraged to attend the “open house” style meeting from 4 - 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9, at the Multicultural Family Center, 1157 Central Avenue. Planning-level conceptual renderings for the proposed projects will be on display and City staff will be available to answer questions and discuss the project with interested residents and stakeholders. Those unable to attend can view related information, submit questions, and provide feedback by visiting: www.cityofdubuque.org/engineering.

One project would involve the construction of a vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian overpass/bridge over the railroad tracks that cross 14th Street, Elm Street, and Maple Street. The overpass would begin at Washington Street and end at Cedar Street, providing unimpeded access to Kerper Boulevard Commercial Business Park, the redeveloped 16th Street corridor, Chaplain Schmitt Island attractions, and U.S. Highway 61/151 and Wisconsin. The estimated cost for this project is \$15 million.

The other project would be a pedestrian and bicycle overpass/bridge beginning on the Bee Branch Creek Trail north of 16th Street, going over the railroad tracks, Canadian Pacific rail yard, and Garfield Street and ending south of Rhomberg Avenue. The Bee Branch Creek Trail is part of the Mississippi River Trail and this bridge would provide an off-street trail/connection between Heritage Trail and the Mississippi River. Additionally, it would be

part of Dubuque's 18-mile network of on-street routes and off-road trails connecting Dubuque's north end with the riverfront, downtown, parks, and Mines of Spain Recreation Area on the city's south side. and would be part of the Bee Branch Creek Trail. The estimated cost for this project is \$5 million.

Because the projects are only in the planning stages at this time, no schedule has been developed. City staff are currently exploring grant opportunities and other potential funding sources for the proposed projects which are estimated to have a total cost of \$20 million.

For additional information, contact the City of Dubuque Engineering Department at 563-589-4270.

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